

# THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND

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No. 1960.

LONDON, SATURDAY, AUGUST 12, 1854.

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**ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN.** *Albion*—The next ACTONIAN PRIZE of £200 will be awarded in the year 1855, on an Essay illustrative of the Wisdom and Beneficence of the Almighty as manifested by the Influence of Solar Radiation. Competitors for this Prize are requested to send their Essays to the Royal Institution on or before Ten o'clock p.m., December 31, 1854, addressed to the Secretary; and the Adjudication will be made by the Managers on Monday, April 12, 1855.

JOHN BARLOW, M.A., Sec. R.I.

**BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.** THE ELEVENTH ANNUAL CONGRESS will be held at Cheltenham, from August 21 to 26 inclusive. Excursions will be made to examine the Castles, Abbeys, and Churches in the neighbourhood, including also a visit to Landaff Cathedral. Papers descriptive of the History and Antiquities of Tintern, Raglan, Cheltenham, Newport, &c., will be read on the spot. Tickets and Programmes may be obtained of the Secretaries and of the Treasurer, T. J. Pettigrew, Esq., 8, Saville Row, of whom also may be had the 5th Vol. of the Transactions of the Society, just published.

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Society's House, Adelphi, August 11th, 1854.

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*Outlines of the Philosophy of Universal History applied to Language and Religion.* By C. C. J. Bunsen, D.C.L. 2 vols. Longman and Co.

*Analecta Ante-Nicena.* Collegit, Recensuit, Illustravit, C. C. J. Bunsen, S.S. Theologiae, Juris Civilis, et Philos. Doctor. 3 vols. Longman and Co.

HAVING already devoted much space to the examination of the Chevalier Bunsen's 'Hippolytus and his Age' ('L. G.' 1852, pp. 757, 772), we are not disposed to return to the work, except for the purpose of announcing the appearance of a new edition, greatly enlarged, and in an improved form. The arrangement of the work was formerly somewhat confused, and the matter most miscellaneous and apparently unconnected, the bearing of many of the philological and philosophical speculations on the main subject of the treatise being discoverable by few readers. Longer time and closer study have enabled the author to put his materials into better order, the four volumes of the former edition being now also increased to seven of the same size. The enlargement is chiefly in the historical and philosophical treatises, and in the Ante-Nicene remains, which the Chevalier has with great learning and industry collected and edited. The problem, as laid down by the author, was, first, to reproduce the character of Hippolytus, and the Christian life of his age; and, secondly, to make that character and life reflect their light upon the later history of the Church in general, and our own times in particular. In carrying out this historical and philosophical problem, many antiquarian and philological researches were entered upon, and with the results of these the bulk of the work is occupied. To 'Hippolytus and his Age' two volumes are separately devoted. The first contains the picture of Hippolytus, as he appears in his own writings and in the documents of antiquity; the second presents a sketch of his times, and of the condition of the Christian Church generally, in its discipline and constitution, its worship and social relations. The ingenious fiction of the 'Apology of Hippolytus' ('L. G.' 1852, pp. 773) forms the conclusion of the second volume.

The two volumes on the 'Philosophy of General History' contain a development of the philosophical aphorisms which formed part of the first edition of 'Hippolytus and his Age.' The object of this work is to trace the outlines of a philosophy of history, especially with a view to discover and define the principles of progress, and to apply these general principles to language and religion, as the two universal and primitive manifestations of the human mind, upon which all subsequent social and national development is based. Apart altogether from ecclesiastical and religious questions, the researches in this work on the philosophy of language are deeply interesting, and the analysis and exposition of some portions of comparative philology are full of new and valuable matter. All the most recent discoveries as to the construction and form of the languages of the East, as related to those of Europe, are

here noticed, and a clear and comprehensive view given of the linguistic facts which have been positively ascertained, with brief and judicious mention of questions still under consideration or discussion. In the second volume of the 'Philosophy of General History,' the Chevalier Bunsen gives his philosophical aphorisms in more expanded form, but they are liable to the same objections which we expressed formerly. The author says that this is the part of his work that has met with the worst reception; and adds, that his Sketches on the Philosophy of Religion "require peculiar indulgence from the reader, and perhaps a little more reflection and study, than some critics have bestowed upon them, from those who will have to give their judgment on their composition." Undeterred by this warning, we would only remark that the objectionable matter in the aphorisms lies on the surface, and needs no deep reflection nor learned study to discover. The intrusion of philosophical discussion and metaphysical speculation into the special province of revealed religion, is what we objected to as opposed to the spirit of inductive science as well as of sound theology. Lord Bacon has, in the 'Novum Organum,' very strikingly marked the boundaries between reason and faith; and these are disregarded by all who manifest a tendency to what is conveniently, but not reproachfully, termed 'rationalistic theology.' The author says that the system of which he gives the outlines exists as a whole in his own mind, and that it rests upon Baconian principles he hopes to prove in a future work. We leave the consideration of this matter for the present, with a renewed protest as to the unsoundness of some of the speculations on the philosophy and the development of religion. We cannot agree with Dr. Bunsen, that "they show little respect for the Word of God, who set down its most sublime and important declarations as unintelligible to human reason." Bishop Butler's great work is an express argument for the application of Baconian philosophy to revealed as well as to natural truth; and he shows how the very same difficulties to reason occur in the study of the works of God that give offence in the study of the word of God. In both cases things are unintelligible to reason, which yet are received as true. On other points, bearing upon revelation and inspiration, we must also retain our objections to Dr. Bunsen's views, as explained in formerly noticing his work.

We will now allow the author to describe, in his own words, the principal contents of the seven volumes in which the work in its new form appears:—

"The first volume gives the picture of Hippolytus among the series of the leading men of the first seven generations of Christians, as the second presents that of his age, and, generally, of the ancient Church, in its discipline and constitution, its worship, and social relations. This second volume concludes with the fiction of the 'Apology of Hippolytus,' as the uniting picture. Such a fiction appeared to me the only means of presenting our hero in action together with his age, and of bringing him and the whole real life of ancient Christendom nearer to our own times and our own hearts.

"In the picture of Hippolytus, I have therefore not only delineated succinctly his two great contemporaries in the East, Clement of Alexandria and Origen, and his teacher Irenaeus, but also those leading men who may be called the heroes and representatives of the preceding generations. Among these, I have drawn more in detail the portraits of

those who have been most neglected or most misunderstood. Of the Epistles of Ignatius, the first Bishop of Antioch, I have given the entire text in a faithful translation. As Hippolytus was almost a mythical person before the publication of his principal work in 1851, so Ignatius, previously to Cureton's discovery in 1845, was only known in the impostor's garb. Let the Christian public now judge for themselves whether these epistles are genuine or not, and whether they are entire or only incoherent extracts from those which hitherto bore his name. If they require additional proof to confirm them in the impression of their authenticity and entireness, let them compare these racy and pregnant parting words of a dying martyr with the twaddle of the seven epistles. In a similar way, I have given the entire Epistle to Diognetus, that patristic gem of unique originality, and have drawn a full picture of the first Christian philosophers and critics, Basilides, Valentinius, and Marcion.

"As to Hippolytus himself, I have of course exhibited here that solemn Confession of Faith which we may consider as his sacred legacy to posterity, and which in its essential parts is ever fresh and living, because it has the life of Christ in it.

"This picture closes with a prospective view of Christian divinity. I have added in an Appendix, the essays contained in the second volume of the first edition which refer to Hippolytus personally; and the Letters to Archdeacon Hare, or the critical inquiry into the authorship of the Refutation, and into the life and writings of its author.

"In a similar manner, I have appended, in the second volume, to that picture of the social life of the ancient Christians, and to its reflex upon our age, such Essays in the former second volume as refer less to Hippolytus personally than to the ancient Church in general.

"I hope that this treatment of the subject, imperfect and unequal as it must be, justifies the words of the title: 'The Beginnings and Prospects of Christianity.' But it is impossible to conceal from oneself that pictures of bygone historical characters and ages cannot prove all they assert and represent. Such compositions are buildings erected upon a substruction, both philosophical and philological, to which a few detached essays and notes cannot do justice.

"The present volumes, therefore, appear flanked by two other works. The first presents in two parts a key to the philosophical, historical, and theological views which pervade 'Hippolytus and his Age.' It bears the title: 'Sketch of the Philosophy of Language and of Religion, or the Beginnings and Prospects of the Human Race.' This sketch comprises the Aphorisms of the second volume of the first edition, better digested and worked out so as to form an integral part of a philosophical glance at the primordial history of our race with regard to the principle of development and of progress.

"The second substruction, the philological, is also presented as a separate work, and forms three volumes. The remains of ante-Nicene documents constitute three sections, none of which have hitherto been given in a complete and satisfactory manner: the literary remains, the constitutional documents, and the liturgical records. Of these, the third section was critically almost a blank before the publication of my 'Reliquiae Liturgicae.' I have had nothing to add to those liturgical texts; but I have this time printed in *extenso* the passages of the Syrian Jacobite liturgy which correspond with the Greek text, whereas, in the first edition, I only indicated that they were identical. But I have prefixed to those texts the Elements Liturgicae, popularly exhibited in my 'Book of the Church.' These elements are the following three:

"First, the Lord's Prayer as liturgically used, and as recorded in the ancient MSS. of the New Testament, and in the Fathers.

"Secondly, the various baptismal formularies, commonly called the Apostles' Creed, to which are added the Nicene and Constantinopolitan Creeds, which at a later period came gradually into liturgical use.



"Thirdly, the primitive psalmody. I give first the so-called three Canticles of Mary, Zacharias, and Simeon, printed as Hebrew Psalms in hemistichs, as they are composed and intended to be used: then the Hymns of the ancient Greek Church. To these I have added, as an appendix, the Te Deum laudamus, the truly original and poetical reproduction and amplification of the Greek morning hymn; a German composition of the fifth century; the only Latin psalm and the only liturgical composition of the Western Church which has obtained universal adoption.

"This forms the third volume of my 'Analecta Ante-Nicena'—the liturgical—which I may now consider as complete.

"As to the second, or constitutional section, I had inserted in the first edition only the Canons of the Apostles, in their Greek and Latin Texts. These I reproduce in the second volume of the 'Analecta'.

"I prefix to the ecclesiastical remains themselves two biblical Prolegomena; christological extracts from the New Testament; and the text of a genuine Apostolic epistle, now merged in a later production.

"The ancient Fathers, as well as their opponents, after the earlier part of the second century, frequently refer to certain passages concerning the person of Christ and his relation to God and man. They read these passages on the whole as our ancient Greek texts and translations exhibit them, but differing here and there from the vulgar text of the New Testament introduced by Stephen and the Elzevirs. I have, therefore, collected together these sacred passages, according to Lachmann's text and authorities, in the order assigned to the books of the New Testament in the Greek manuscripts. Such a review of the authoritative texts respecting Christ, which contain the fundamental doctrine of all Christian divinity, of the Father, Son, and Spirit, might, I thought, be found useful by many of my readers.

"The second part of the Prolegomena exhibits the text of the short letter of St. Peter's mentioned by him, in that epistle which we call his first, as having been sent through Sylvanus to the same congregations of Christians.

"The literary texts of the second century open with the Epistles of Ignatius, of which I have given the English versions in 'Hippolytus.' They are followed by all the fragments contained in the so-called Philosophumena of the Fathers of Gnosticism, the first witnesses of the Gospel of St. John—Basilides and Valentinus. To these are added the fragment of Marcion, with which is connected the authentic Epistle to Diognetus, at all events belonging to the earlier part of the second century. In this place I had hoped to insert an entirely unpublished text. The Libyan manuscripts contain an Apology of Melito, who must be the Bishop of Sardes who, about the year 169, presented to Marcus Aurelius the Philosopher a defence of Christianity. It appears entire, and therefore ought to contain the fragments quoted by Eusebius, but does not do so. It bears, moreover, the stamp of a late and confused composition. For these reasons I have abstained from giving it a place among the genuine texts. A fragment of Hegesippus, the contemporary of Melito, which has been overlooked, terminates the series of the second century. It is known as the Fragmentum Muratorianum, and enumerates with authority the books of the New Testament which were considered as canonical by the great Churches, and particularly by that of Rome. I give the text, founded upon a most accurate transcript of the original manuscript, and hope to have made a not entirely unsuccessful attempt at solving two hitherto unfathomed problems which it presents.

"Two relics of the third century conclude the Analecta. The first is the most considerable composition of my collection: Clement of Alexandria's 'Sketches,' or Hypotyposes. This esoteric book, the great effort of his life, is generally supposed to have perished, with the exception of a few incoherent fragments; but I hope to show that a great part of the first book, and a considerable portion of the other seven books, still exist; and that we

are able to reconstruct the whole plan of this very profound, learned, and sound manual of the Christian divinity of the Fathers, a work coeval with the youth, and perhaps with the earlier writings, of Hippolytus in the West.

"The second is the Confession of Faith of Hippolytus, the real gem of his writings."

Among the collections in the Ante-Nicene remains are many rare and remarkable pieces, and the text of the Apostolical Constitutions, as obtained from a Syrian manuscript examined at Paris in 1852, collated critically with the Greek, is far more genuine than in any previous form. Dr. Bunsen says, that two more such volumes as those now published would include all the literary remains of the Ante-Nicene Fathers, as given in Grabe's 'Spicilegium,' Routh's 'Reliquiæ,' and in Hefele's and Jacobson's 'Patres Apostolici,' that is to say, all except Justin, Irenæus, Clemens Alexandrinus, Hippolytus, and Origen. The great interest and value of these works to the students of history and ecclesiastical antiquity we fully recognise, and for the sake of literature we rejoice in the growing popularity of such pursuits, but their practical importance either in relation to politics or theology are greatly exaggerated by Dr. Bunsen. The rapid sale of the first edition of a work like 'Hippolytus and his Age' is a good symptom of the interest taken in these inquiries, and a proof at the same time of the high estimation in which the learning and character of the author are held in this country.

*The Life and Adventures of a Clever Woman. Illustrated with Occasional Extracts from her Diary. By Mrs. Trollope. Hurst and Blackett.*

MRS. TROLLOPE'S new novel is marked by the same peculiarities as most of her former writings. With the shrewdness of observation and cleverness of style every reader must be pleased, but at the same time few will retain good feeling towards one whose delight seems to be to dwell on the unamiable and offensive features of life and character. If this were done in the wholesome spirit of faithful satire, and with the obvious design of mending what is described as amiss, no fault could be found with the writer. But the tone and temper of Mrs. Trollope's tales forbid this charitable construction being cherished, and we cannot help supposing that she writes just what appears to her, as a practised author and a woman of the world, likely to please the largest circle of readers for whom her talents can be turned to account. Far be it from us to say that her writings in general, and this novel in particular, may not prove highly useful, by the plain pictures of vice and folly which are held up to observation. But we object to the great predominance of unpleasing over pleasing views of human nature, and we think that the moral influence of so able a writer would be greater if her satire were less severe and her spirit more genial. We feel this the more from the success with which Mrs. Trollope occasionally introduces characters wholly worthy of the reader's respect and affection. Such in this tale are Montague Herbert, and Zelah Richards, the charming daughter of a blackleg artist and gambler. We give the passage where these two good hearts are united. Zelah's father had been obliged to make a hurried flight from London, and was living at Brussels in concealment with his wife and son. Charlotte

Morris, the clever woman, the heroine of the tale, had long retained Zelah in her house as a humble pensioner. Montague Herbert, whom the clever and wealthy Charlotte liked better than any of the visitors at her father's house, had long admired young Zelah, pity for her position perhaps fostering his love. Zelah had suddenly disappeared from the house of her protectress, and Montague having traced her to Brussels, brought matters to the proper issue in the sensible manner here described:—

"On the day following that of Montague Herbert's startling arrival, Zelah and her mother only saw him for a few moments, and Mr. Richards did not see him at all. He accounted for his absence by saying that in coming to Brussels he had undertaken to execute some important business for a friend, which no affairs of his own could justify his neglecting for a single day. And having made this statement, with some solemnity, he added, addressing himself to the mother of Zelah, that he hoped he should be rewarded for doing what was decidedly a duty, by being permitted to take a walk with his affianced wife on the following morning.

"Mrs. Richards, though much relieved by being released from the necessity of providing breakfast, dinner, and supper, declared herself inexpressibly sorry that they must submit to lose sight of him so long, but concluded her very affectionate speech by assuring him that she would take care that their dear Zelah should be ready to indulge him with a *tête-à-tête* walk on the following morning.

"And on the following morning, at rather an early hour, he made his appearance; Mrs. Richards having taken care, with more than usual activity, that all traces of breakfast should have disappeared before his arrival; and then Zelah, in precisely the same black dress in which she had travelled from London, was conducted down the long dark stairs by the same faithful hand which had offered itself to protect her for life.

"Having reached the street, Herbert paused for a moment, placed her arm very snugly and domestically under his own, and then indulged himself for one short moment by looking into her sweet face.

"'Why, Zelah!' he exclaimed, pressing the arm he held to his heart, 'Zelah! you positively look as if you were happy!'

"'Happy! Can it be myself that feels as I do now? My waking self? Is there no dreaming, no delusion in it, Herbert?'

"'Perhaps there is; perhaps there may be, Zelah!' was his reply, as he still held her standing beside him. 'How dare I be sure,' he continued, 'that even my long-loved Zelah, my long, long ago chosen wife, will endure the very unceremonious treatment that I am going to inflict upon her?'

"'How can you be sure? Don't make believe, as the children say! What is there that you can tell me to do, that you do not know I am ready to do at your bidding?' she replied.

"'Now then for the test!' said he, turning himself round so as to stand exactly opposite to her. 'Now then for the test, Zelah! Are you ready at this present moment, at this very actual row, to walk with me into a church which stands at no great distance. It is a Protestant church, Zelah, and has a Protestant clergyman waiting in it. Are you ready to walk with me into that church, and then and there to become my wife?'

"'Herbert! are you jesting with me?' she replied, almost in a whisper.

"'Did I think you believed it possible, I do not feel quite sure that I would take the walk with you, Zelah. But listen to me for one moment only, and I think you will perceive that I am not only in earnest in proposing this, but that I am wise also. Recall the scene that we have just left up stairs; and recall, too, all that we both know so well respecting it; and then tell me if you think

that I could arrange any other mode of our being married that would be more convenient?

"But the necessary preliminaries, Herbert?"

"They are all got through. You are of age, Zelah, and I have found no difficulty in obtaining a licence. I am carrying a ring, which I have bought by guess, on the tip of my own little finger.' And then in a graver tone, he added, 'Zelah! my beloved! long, long as we have been united in heart, I feel, as well as you do, that this hurried mode of entering upon the happiness we have been so long looking forward to, is in many ways objectionable. And I regret it, Zelah. Nay, dearest, I repeat, and with the most perfect sincerity, the assurance I have just given you; namely, that if you really think, all the difficulties around us being considered, that we can find out a better course, I am willing to yield my judgment to yours.'

"In reply to this speech, which was uttered with very solemn earnestness, Zelah only moved gently on, giving, as she did so, a soft confiding pressure to the arm which supported her."

In contrast with this scene let us turn to one of the extracts from the clever woman's diary, in which her state of feeling is recorded immediately after the abrupt breaking off of an intended marriage by the bridegroom being arrested for debt. The disagreeable tone of the whole book may be pretty well gathered from the following passage. On the night of what appeared her "disappointment," Charlotte thus coldly writes:—

"Thank God! They have left me alone at last! Even that sharp-witted maid of mine seems to fancy that I want a vast deal of consolation. If the hero of the tale had been my demure middle-aged friend, Mr. Montague Herbert, instead of the handsome, dashing young Captain in the Guards, I might have wanted a portion of the sublime composure which at present supports me. But there is no danger, I believe, of any adventures of any kind in that quarter.

"How difficult it is, and ever must be, for me to feel any very tender sympathy and compassion for all the piling sorrows which I continually hear of around me! A little common sense, and a little quiet good management, would suffice in other cases, as well as in mine, to ward off ninetenths of the misery that drowns the female world in tears.

"It is so common to hear of the tyranny of fathers and husbands! And yet it seems to me as certain as that the sun is in heaven, that fathers, and husbands too, may be managed with the greatest ease, if women would but set their wits a little more steadily to work upon the business. My own case seems to me to furnish a very fair specimen of what may be done by a little forethought and good management.

"I wished to spend more money in giving parties than my father liked to pay, and I felt this to be a hardship, because the money must eventually be my own. But how was the difficulty to be met? It could only be met by running in debt. This could not, in my case, be done on my father's credit, because he refuses to take even the usual credit from his tradespeople; it must, therefore, be done on my own. And on this measure I immediately decided; devoting nearly the whole of my personal allowance to the objects for which ready money was required, and trusting for my dresses to the well known patience of that portion of the human family who devote themselves to this branch of industry.

"Nothing, in fact, can be fairer on both sides than this well-established system.

"The distress and embarrassment which is spared by this way of doing business is very great to those who are the consumers, and the profit is, at least, proportionally great to the producers—if they have only a little patience in waiting for it.

"This system, however, excellent as it is, can never be profitably available to either party, unless there is CAPITAL to sustain it. Had I not known that I should eventually be a woman of good fortune, I should never have had recourse to it; neither

could my dressmaker have assisted such a speculation without ruin, unless she had possessed sufficient capital to enable her to wait with safety.

"I have indulged in this digression for the purpose of pointing out the very important truth, that no one can safely risk money unless they are sure that at some time or other they shall possess it.

"But to return to my own affairs. Nothing could have answered better than the system I have pursued, even though I have sustained what, in the language of those who know nothing about the matter, will be called a *disappointment*. To me there is no disappointment, for I have succeeded in all I wished to achieve. When my good father took fright, and cried '*Halte là*' to my little parties, I felt that I was at the most important point of my existence. Had I yielded before the difficulty which at that moment opposed itself to the first wish of my heart, namely, that of making myself a person of some importance in fashionable society, I should have been crushed for ever.

"Had I not known, indeed, that I was to possess my father's fortune after his death, I must have submitted, and I should have sunk to rise no more; but as it was, I immediately perceived that by the simple process of supplying some of our current expenses by my own ready money, and supplying my personal wants upon credit, I should still be able to pursue the course which was obviously leading me to the place which I so ardently wished to occupy.

"But if any one supposes that I adopted this plan without being perfectly aware that it could not go on successfully above a year or two, they do me wrong. If I had been fifty years old instead of twenty-five, I could not have been more perfectly aware of this truth. But I was aware also, that I was not the only individual acquainted with the fact that I was my rich father's only child, and I knew that it would not be very difficult for me at any moment to smile upon a modest swain till I had inspired him with sufficient courage to solicit the honour and happiness of my hand in marriage.

"If I declared myself disposed to listen to his suit, my father, I well knew, would not be so cruel as to let me break my heart from disappointed love; so then would follow preparations for my wedding, which would be sure to open the good man's coffers in such a manner as to enable me to pay all my debts, without his even guessing that they had existed. It was only necessary that I should tell him I wanted a few more dresses than there was any necessity for my buying at that particular moment, and all would be right.

"Every thing I thus predicted has exactly come to pass. I did persevere in my onward and upward path till my place in society has become pretty nearly everything I wished it to be; I did receive an offer of marriage, and from a very fashionable man too, within forty-eight hours of the moment that it became convenient to me that I should receive it; the preparations for my wedding wardrobe, and other incidental expenses, have, as I knew they would do, placed sufficient money in my hands to pay all the debts, the contracting which was so important an advantage to me at the time it was done.

"So far I have completely obtained the object I had in view, and I am certain that I shall never cease to feel the advantage of this. Nothing can obliterate the fact, that I have held a distinguished place in good society.

"That the matrimonial engagement, by the means of which I intended to shake off my difficulties, and by means of which I have done so;—that this matrimonial engagement is likely to be less enduring than the advantages its formation produced, will never be considered by me as any very great misfortune. The Knighton family and myself have been reciprocally useful to each other, and I daresay we are on both sides equally grateful for the favours received and given. But all things on this side eternity must come to an end, and our mutual friendship among the rest.

"If,—but, to confess the truth, I do not think

it very likely,—if, however, the unexpected turn which affairs have now taken should induce that very mysterious personage, Montague Herbert, to make up his mind that it might be as well to propose to me at once as to haunt the house in the manner he has been doing the last year or two—I might be induced, perhaps, to think that the best and wisest thing for both would be for us to marry.

"The connexion his sister is evidently about to form would at once do more towards obtaining and preserving for me the position I desire to hold, than anything the Knightons could do for me."

From these extracts, without our giving any outline of the story, some judgment may be formed of the nature of the book. Although we have expressed ourselves strongly as to the ungenial tone of some of the subjects chosen by Mrs. Trollope, we do not underrate the ability and artistic tact displayed in her treatment of them. However objectionable on other grounds her writings may sometimes be, we have seldom to complain of their dullness.

### *The Opening of the Crystal Palace considered in some of its Relations to the Prospects of Art.* By John Ruskin, M.A. Smith, Elder, and Co.

WHAT Mr. Ruskin thinks and says of the Sydenham Crystal Palace many will be curious to know. Like all reasonable men, he thinks highly of the great influence that it will exercise as a national repository of objects of art, where knowledge may be increased and taste cultivated. But the building itself fills his mind with melancholy thoughts, of which he can neither repress the importunity nor forbear the expression. Looking at the whole affair in its bearings on his own favourite studies, he mourns over the popular admiration of the Crystal Palace as a proof of a debased and degenerate feeling in regard to architecture and its creations. A remark in Mr. Laing's speech at the opening of the palace has especially grieved him, when he said that "an entirely novel order of architecture, producing, by means of unrivalled mechanical ingenuity, the most marvellous and beautiful effects, sprang into existence to provide the building." In these words the speaker is represented as not merely giving utterance to his own feelings, but as expressing the popular view of the facts; nor that a view merely popular, but one which has been encouraged by nearly all the professors of art of our time.

"It is to this, then," exclaims Mr. Ruskin, "that our Doric and Palladian pride is at last reduced! We have vaunted the divinity of the Greek ideal—we have plumed ourselves on the purity of our Italian taste—we have cast our whole souls into the proportions of pillars, and the relations of orders—and behold the end! Our taste, thus exalted and disciplined, is dazzled by the lustre of a few rows of panes of glass; and the first principles of architectural sublimity, so far sought, are found all the while to have consisted merely in sparkling and in space.

"For three hundred years, the art of architecture has been the subject of the most curious investigation; its principles have been discussed with all earnestness and acuteness; its models in all countries and of all ages have been examined with scrupulous care, and imitated with unsparing expenditure. And of all this refinement of inquiry,—this lofty search after the ideal,—this subtlety of investigation and sumptuousness of practice,—the great result, the admirable and long-expected conclusion is, that in the centre of the nineteenth century, we suppose ourselves to have invented a new style of architecture, when we have magnified a conservatory!



"Let it not be thought that I would depreciate (were it possible to depreciate) the mechanical ingenuity which has been displayed in the erection of the Crystal Palace, or that I underrate the effect which its vastness may continue to produce on the popular imagination. But mechanical ingenuity is not the essence either of painting or architecture: and largeness of dimension does not necessarily involve nobleness of design. There is assuredly as much ingenuity required to build a screw frigate, or a tubular bridge, as a hall of glass;—all these are works characteristic of the age; and all, in their several ways, deserve our highest admiration; but not admiration of the kind that is rendered to poetry or to art. We may cover the German Ocean with frigates, and bridge the Bristol Channel with iron, and roof the county of Middlesex with crystal, and yet not possess one Milton, or Michael Angelo.

"Well, it may be replied, we need our bridges, and have pleasure in our palaces; but we do not want Miltons, nor Michael Angelos.

"Truly, it seems so; for, in the year in which the first Crystal Palace was built, there died among us a man whose name, in after ages, will stand with those of the great of all time. Dying, he bequeathed to the nation the whole mass of his most cherished works: and for these three years, while we have been building this colossal receptacle for casts and copies of the art of other nations, these works of our own greatest painter have been left to decay in a dark room near Cavendish-square, under the custody of an aged servant.

"This is quite natural. But it is also memorable.

"There is another interesting fact connected with the history of the Crystal Palace as it bears on that of the art of Europe—namely, that in the year 1851, when all that glittering roof was built, in order to exhibit the petty arts of our fashionable luxury—the carved bedsteads of Vienna, and glued toys of Switzerland, and gay jewellery of France—in that very year, I say, the greatest pictures of the Venetian masters were rotting at Venice in the rain, for want of roof to cover them, with holes made by cannon shot through their canvases.

"There is another fact, however, more curious than either of these, which will hereafter be connected with the history of the palace now in building—namely, that at the very period when Europe is congratulated on the invention of a new style of architecture, because fourteen acres of ground have been covered with glass, the greatest examples in existence of true and noble Christian architecture were being resolutely destroyed; and destroyed by the effects of the very interest which was slowly beginning to be excited by them."

The special subject which excites Mr. Ruskin's anxiety, and to the consideration of which he devotes the greater part of the present pamphlet, is the process of repairing and restoration now going on in some of the old cathedrals of France:—

"Under the firm and wise government of the third Napoleon, France has entered on a new epoch of prosperity, one of the signs of which is a zealous care for the preservation of her noble public buildings. Under the influence of this healthy impulse, repairs of the most extensive kind are at this moment proceeding, on the cathedrals of Rheims, Amiens, Rouen, Chartres, and Paris; (probably also in many other instances unknown to me). These repairs were, in many cases, necessary up to a certain point; and they have been executed by architects as skilful and learned as at present exist,—executed with noble disregard of expense, and sincere desire on the part of their superintendents that they should be completed in a manner honourable to the country.

"They are nevertheless more fatal to the monuments they are intended to preserve, than fire, war, or revolution. For they are undertaken, in the plurality of instances, under an impression, which the efforts of all true antiquaries have as yet been unable to remove, that it is possible to reproduce the mutilated sculpture of past ages in its original beauty.

"'Reproduire avec une exactitude mathématique,' are words used by M. l'Abbé Bulteau, one of the most intelligent writers on this subject, of the proposed regeneration of the statue of Ste. Modeste, on the north porch of the Cathedral of Chartres.

"Now, it is not the question at present, whether 13th century sculpture be of value, or not. Its value is assumed by the authorities who have devoted sums so large to its so-called restoration, and may therefore be assumed in my argument. The worst state of the sculptures whose restoration is demanded may be fairly represented by that of the celebrated group of the Fates, among the Elgin Marbles in the British Museum. With what favour would the guardians of those marbles, or any other persons interested in Greek art, receive a proposal from a living sculptor to 'reproduce with mathematical exactitude' the group of the Fates, in a perfect form, and to destroy the original? For with exactly such favour, those who are interested in Gothic art should receive proposals to reproduce the sculpture of Chartres or Rouen."

Mr. Ruskin speaks from his own recent observations of the restorations of the cathedral of Rouen:—

"I have given many years, in many cities, to the study of Gothic architecture; and of all that I know, or knew, the entrance to the north transept of Rouen Cathedral was, on the whole, the most beautiful—beautiful, not only as an elaborate and faultless work of the finest time of Gothic art, but yet more beautiful in the partial, though not dangerous, decay which had touched its pinnacles with pensive colouring, and softened its severer lines with unexpected change, and delicate fracture, like sweet breaks in a distant music. The upper part of it has been already restored to the white accuracies of novelty; the lower pinnacles, which flanked its approach, far more exquisite in their partial ruin than the loveliest remains of our English abbeys, have been entirely destroyed, and rebuilt in rough blocks, now in process of sculpture. This restoration, so far as it has gone, has been executed by peculiarly skilful workmen; it is an unusually favourable example of restoration, especially in the care which has been taken to preserve intact the exquisite, and hitherto almost uninjured sculptures which fill the quatrefoils of the tracery above the arch. But I happened myself to have made, five years ago, detailed drawings of the buttress decorations on the right and left of this tracery, which are part of the work that has been completely restored. And I found the restorations as inaccurate as they were unnecessary.

"If this is the case in a most favourable instance, in that of a well-known monument, highly esteemed by every antiquary in France, what, during the progress of the now almost universal repairs, is likely to become of architecture which is unwatched and despised?"

Further on in his pamphlet he again refers to Rouen:—

"A city altogether inestimable for its retention of mediæval character in the infinitely varied streets in which one half of the existing and inhabited houses date from the 15th or early 16th century; and the only town left in France in which the effect of old French domestic architecture can yet be seen in its collective groups. But when I was there, this last spring, I heard that these noble old Norman houses are all, as speedily as may be, to be stripped of the dark slates which protected their timbers, and deliberately whitewashed over all their sculptures and ornaments, in order to bring the interior of the town into some conformity with the 'handsome fronts' of the hotels and offices on the quay.

"Hotels and offices, and 'handsome fronts' in general—they can be built in America or Australia—built at any moment, and in any height of splendour. But who shall give us back, when once destroyed, the habitations of the French chivalry and bourgeoisie, in the days of the Field of the Cloth of Gold?"

If the work of destruction and renovation is carried as far as is here represented, Mr. Ruskin's lamentation is one in which all readers of judgment and taste will sympathise. But from the general tone of his remarks we suspect that he carries his denunciation of modern architects to unreasonable lengths. "Grant," he says, "that the new constructions are equal to the old in beauty, precisely corresponding in detail. Is the stone carved to-day in their masons' yards altogether the same in value to the hearts of the French people as that which the eyes of St. Louis saw lifted to its place?" If this principle were fully acted on, the most necessary repairs, even for purposes of preservation, would be forbidden. From the materials with which some of the old cathedrals are built, the process of decay proceeds with accelerating speed, and they must soon become dangerous ruins. Mr. Ruskin says, that none but unhallowed hands could interfere with the mouldering buttresses, crumbling pinnacles, and yawning chasms. He only beholds Time engaged in the wholesome work of "softening the severer lines with unexpected change and delicate fracture, like sweet breaks in a distant music." With regard to the argument from the historic and moral associations of the original building, it is idle romancing to carry this to points of minute and unessential detail. He might as well object to the naval authorities suffering carpenters or caulkers to execute necessary repairs on Nelson's *Victory* at Portsmouth, because of the fond historical associations connected with the ship. The greater the national value for a monument, the greater anxiety will be shown to keep it in repair and preservation. That this is all that is proposed in regard to the old French cathedrals we feel confident, though Mr. Ruskin's warnings may not be without use in securing due consideration and faithful superintendence for such works.

*My Friends and Acquaintance: being Memorials, Mind-Portraits, and Personal Recollections of Deceased Celebrities of the Nineteenth Century.* By P. G. Patmore. Saunders and Otley.

THIS work will be of great value to the living celebrities of the present century, as a warning to them to be cautious with whom they correspond, and who to admit into their society. It contains a great deal of written matter that ought never to have been printed, and scarcely less of printed matter that ought never to have been written. The letters here published are chiefly communications purely confidential, and they are served up as 'mind-portraits,' with the silliest of comments, and, we grieve to add, the most unprincipled of reflections. The first among the celebrities whose mind Mr. Patmore has undertaken to portray is Charles Lamb; and this is the equivocal style in which the gentle Elia is held up to admiration. "To be taken into Lamb's favour and protection you had only to get discarded, defamed, and shunned by everybody else; and if you deserved this treatment, so much the better! If I may venture so to express myself, there was in Lamb's eyes a sort of sacredness in sin, on account of its sure ill consequences to the sinner; and he seemed to open his arms and his heart to the rejected and reviled of mankind in a spirit kindred at least with that of the Deity." The meaning, perhaps, is, that Lamb sought to follow the example of Him

who was not ashamed to be called 'the friend of sinners.' But there is a broad distinction between the love of compassion and the love of complacency, and Mr. Patmore here describes Lamb as delighting in the company of rogues or fools, and making them his 'special pets.' "He did not like to be thought different from his fellow-men," continues Mr. Patmore; "and he knew that, in the vocabulary of the ordinary world, 'a man of genius' seldom means anything better, and often something worse, than an object of mingled fear, pity, and contempt." But what would poor Lamb say, if he could rise up and see his foibles extolled, and that one especially which gave so much occasional anxiety to his sister, in the manner following:—

"The truth is, that as 'to the pure all is pure,' so to the wise and good all is wise and good. Now there never was a wiser and better man than Charles Lamb, and the habit to which I am about to refer more definitely than in the above passage, was one of the wisest to which he addicted himself; and if it now and then lapsed into folly, what is the merely human wisdom which does not sometimes do the like?"

"When Lamb was about to accompany a parting guest half a mile, or half a dozen miles on his way to town (which was his almost constant practice), you could always see that his sister had rather he stayed at home; and her last salutation was apt to be—'Now, Charles, you're not going to take any ale?' 'No, no,' was his more than half-impatient reply. Now this simple question, and its simple reply, form the text on which I ask leave to preach my little homily on the imputed sin of an extra glass of gin and water.

"The truth, then, is, that Lamb's excellent sister, in her over-anxious and affectionate care in regard to what she looked at too exclusively as a question of *bodily* health, endeavoured latterly to restrict her brother too much in the use—for to the abuse he was never addicted—of those artificial stimuli which were to a certain extent indispensable to the healthy tone of his mental condition. To keep him from the chance of being ill, she often kept him from the certainty of being well and happy—not to mention the keeping others from partaking in the inestimable results of that health and happiness. I have listened delightedly to the intellectual Table Talk of a large proportion of the most distinguished conversers of the day, and have ever found it, as a rule, to be infinitely more deeply imbued with wisdom, and the virtues which spring from wisdom, and infinitely more capable of impressing and generating these, than the *written* words of the same teachers. But I have no recollection of any such colloquies that have left such delightful and instructive impressions on my mind as those which have taken place between the first and the last glass of gin and water, after a rump-steak or a pork-chop supper in the simple little domicile of Charles Lamb and his sister at Enfield Chase. And it must not be overlooked that the afore-named gin and water played no insignificant part in those repasts. True, it *created* nothing. But it was the talisman that not only unlocked the poor casket in which the rich thoughts of Charles Lamb were shut up, but set in motion that machinery in the absence of which they would have lain like gems in the mountain, or gold in the mine.

"The cup in which he indulged was a blessing one, no less to himself than to others, and for both parties 'its ingredient' was an angel."

The letter which follows is very characteristic of the writer, and there is no objection to its publicity:—

"Charles Lamb to P. G. Patmore.

"Mrs. Leishman's, Chase, Enfield.

"DEAR PATMORE.—Excuse my anxiety—but how is Dash? (I should have asked if Mrs. Patmore kept her rules and was improving—but Dash came uppermost. The order of our thoughts

should be the order of our writing.) Goes he muzzled, or *aperto ore*? Are his intellects sound, or does he wander a little in *his* conversation? You cannot be too careful to watch the first symptoms of incoherence. The first illogical snarl he makes, to St. Luke's with him. All the dogs here are going mad, if you believe the overseers; but I protest they seem to me very rational and collected. But nothing is so deceitful as mad people to those who are not used to them. Try him with hot water. If he wont lick it up, it is a sign he does not like it. Does his tail wag horizontally or perpendicularly? That has decided the fate of many dogs in Enfield. Is his general deportment cheerful? I mean when he is pleased—for otherwise there is no judging. You can't be too careful. Has he bit any of the children yet? If he has, have them shot, and keep *him* for curiosity, to see if it was the hydrophobia. They say all our army in India had it at one time—but that was in *Hyderabad*'s time. Do you get paunch for him? Take care the sheep was sane. You might pull out his teeth (if he would let you), and then you need not mind if he were as mad as a bedlamite. It would be rather fun to see his odd ways. It might amuse Mrs. Patmore and the children. They'd have more sense than he! He'd be like a Fool kept in the family, to keep the household in good humour with their own understanding. You might teach him the mad dance set to the mad howl. *Madge Quel-et* would be nothing to him. 'My, how he capers!' (One of the children speaks this.) . . . .

"(Here three lines are erased.)

"What I scratch out is a German quotation from Lessing on the bite of rabid animals; but, I remember, you don't read German. But Mrs. Patmore may, so I wish I had let it stand. The meaning in English is—'Avoid to approach an animal suspected of madness, as you would avoid a fire or a precipice.'—which I think is a sensible observation. The Germans are certainly profounder than we.

"If the slightest suspicion arises in your breast, that all is not right with him (Dash), muzzle him, and lead him in a string (common packthread will do; he don't care for twist) to Hood's, his quondam master, and he'll take him in at any time. You may mention your suspicion or not, as you like, or as you think it may wound or not Mr. H.'s feelings. Hood, I know, will wink at a few follies in Dash, in consideration of his former sense. Besides, Hood is deaf, and if you hinted anything, ten to one he would not hear you. Besides, you will have discharged your conscience, and laid the child at the right door, as they say.

"We are dawdling our time away very idly and pleasantly, at a Mrs. Leishman's, Chase, Enfield, where, if you come a-hunting, we can give you cold meat and a tankard. Her husband is a tailor; but that, you know, does not make her one. I knew a jailor (which rhymes), but his wife was a fine lady.

"Let us hear from you respecting Mrs. Patmore's regimen. I send my love in a ——— to Dash.

"C. LAMB."

There is, however, another letter of Charles Lamb's, which it would have been a charity to his memory to have thrown in the fire. We only refer to it for the sake of showing the absurdity of Mr. Patmore's comments:—

"If I give this incomparable letter in all its disjointed integrity, with its enormous jokes in the shape of pretended domestic news, about Procter, Hone, Godwin, Beckey, &c.; its imitable *tableau vivant* of the 'merry passage with the widow at the Commons'; its 'and then I knew that she was not inconsolable,' which cannot be paralleled out of Shakespeare; its startling dramatic interpolations, 'No shrimps!' and 'All three, says Dash'; its sick qualms, curable only by puns; its deliberate incoherencies; its hypothetical invitation to dinner (I was at Paris at the time);—if I venture to give all these in their naked innocence, it is because I do not dare to tamper, even to the amount of a single word, with an epistolary gem that is worth the best volume of Horace Walpole's, and half the

'Elegant Extracts' from Pope and Atterbury to boot."

It would be unfair towards Mr. Patmore if we did not give, in plain language, our reasons for condemning his book as being unprincipled and immoral. A pretty code of ethics and of honour might be gathered from the following passage from his 'mind-portrait' of the Countess of Blessington:—

"It used to be the fashion in England to describe George the Fourth as 'the finest gentleman in Europe'; and the rest of the world seemed half inclined to admit the claim!—George the Fourth, —who is now pretty generally allowed (even in England) to have been little better, at his best, than a graceful and good-tempered voluptuary; a shallow egotist while young, a heartless debauchee when old, and at all times, young or old, an exacting yet faithless friend, a bitter and implacable enemy, a harsh and indifferent father, a cruel and tyrannical husband, and, as an occupant of the supreme station to which he was called, only praiseworthy as having the good sense to bear in mind that he was the ruler not of Russia but of England.

"Such thirty years ago was England's beau-ideal of that highest and noblest phase of the human character, 'a gentleman.' She has learned better since, and it is by a Frenchman that the lesson has been taught her; and if now asked to point to the finest gentleman Europe has known since the days of our own Sidney, Herberts, Peterboroughs, &c., she would with one accord turn to no other than the Count D'Orsay,—though he had nothing better to show for the distinction than his perfect manner, his noble person, his varied accomplishments, and his universal popularity, no less with his own sex than with that which is best qualified to appreciate the character in question.

"It was the singular good fortune of Count D'Orsay—or rather let us call it his singular merit, for it has arisen solely from the rare qualities and endowments of his mind and heart—to be the chosen friend and companion of the finest wits and the ripest and profoundest scholars of his day, while all the idler portion of the world were looking to him merely as

'The glass of fashion, and the mould of form.'

He was the favourite associate, on terms of perfect intellectual equality, of a Byron, a Bulwer, and a Landor; and, at the same time, the oracle, in dress and every other species of dandyism, of a Chesterfield, a Pembroke, and a Wilton.

"I have heard one of the most distinguished of English *littérateurs* declare that the most profound and enlightened remarks he ever met with on the battle of Waterloo were contained in a familiar letter from the Count D'Orsay to one of his friends; and of this there can be no dispute—that incomparably the finest effigies which have yet been produced of the two heroes of that mighty conquest are from the hand of Count D'Orsay. His equestrian statues of Napoleon and Wellington, small as they are, are admitted by all true judges to be among the finest works of art of modern times.

"In the sister art, of painting, Count D'Orsay's successes were no less remarkable. His portrait of the most intellectual Englishman of his time, Lord Lyndhurst, is the most intellectual work of its class that has appeared since the death of the late President of the Royal Academy; and there is scarcely a living celebrity in the worlds of politics, of literature, of art, or of fashion, respectively, of whom Count D'Orsay has not sketched the most characteristic likeness extant. Most of these latter were confined to the portfolio of the late Lady Blessington, and are therefore only known to the favoured *habitués* of Gore House. But as those *habitués* included all that was distinguished in taste and *dilettanti-ism*, their fiat on such matters is final; and it is such as I have described.

"But this 'Admirable Crichton' of the nineteenth century was, like his prototype just named, no less remarkable for personal gifts and accomplishments than he was for those which are usually



attributed to intellectual qualities; though many of them depend more on bodily conformation than the pride of intellect will allow us to admit. Count D'Orsay was one of the very best riders in a country whose riders are admitted to be the best in the world; he was one of the keenest and most accomplished sportsmen in a nation whose sporting supremacy is the only undisputed one they possess; he was the best judge of a horse among a people of horse-dealers and horse-jockeys; he was among the best cricketers in a country where all are cricketers, and where alone that noblest of games exists; he was the best swimmer, the best shot, the best swordsman, the best boxer, the best wrestler, the best tennis-player; and he was admitted to be the best judge and umpire in all these amusements.

"To crown his personal gifts and accomplishments, Count D'Orsay was incomparably the handsomest man of his time; and, what is still more remarkable, he retained this distinction for five-and-twenty years—uniting to a figure scarcely inferior in the perfection of its form to that of the Apollo, a head and face that blended the grace and dignity of the Antinous with the beaming intellect of the younger Bacchus, and the almost feminine softness and beauty of the Ganymede.

"The position which Count D'Orsay held in the *haute monde* of London society, for more than twenty years, is such as was rarely held, at any other time, by any other person in this country; and this in spite of such peculiar and numerous disadvantages as no other man ever attempted to overcome, much less succeeded. In the first place he was, as we have seen, a Frenchman born and bred; and he never changed or repudiated the habits and manners of his native country, or in any way warped or adapted them to those of the people among whom he had nevertheless become naturalized. He spoke English with a strong French accent and idiom, and, I verily believe, would not have got rid of these if he could; his tone of thinking and feeling, and all the general habits of his mind, were French; the style of his dress, of his equipages, of his personal appearance and bearing, were all essentially and eminently French.

"In the next place, with tastes and personal habits magnificent and generous even to a fault, Count D'Orsay was very far from being rich; consequently, at every step, he was obliged to tread upon some of the shopkeeping prejudices of English life. Unlike most of the denizens of this 'nation of shopkeepers,' he very wisely looked upon a tradesman as a being born to give credit, but who never does fulfil that part of his calling if he can help it, except where he believes that it will conduct him, if not to payment, at least to profit. The fashionable tradesmen of London knew that to be patronized by Count D'Orsay was a fortune to them; and yet they had the face to expect that he would pay their bills after they had run for a 'reasonable' period, whether it suited his convenience to do so or not! As if, by rights, he ought to have paid them at all, or as if they ought not to have paid him for showering fortune on them by his smile, if it had not been that his honour would have forbidden such an arrangement, even with 'a nation of shopkeepers!' Nay, I believe they sometimes perpetrated the mingled injustice and stupidity of invoking the law to their aid, and arresting him! Shutting up within four walls the man whose going forth was the signal for all the rest of the world to think of opening their purses, to compass something or other which they beheld in that mirror of all fashionable requirements! It was a little fortune to his tiger to tell the would-be dandies dwelling north of Oxford-street where D'Orsay bought his last new cab-horse, or who built his tilbury or his coat; and yet it is said that his horse-dealer, his coachmaker, and his tailor have been known to shut up from sight this type and model by which all the male 'nobility and gentry' of London horsed, equipaged, and attired themselves!

"Another of the great disadvantages against which Count D'Orsay had to contend, during his whole life, was the peculiarity of his social position. And these social disadvantages and anomalies

acted with tenfold force in a country where the pretences to moral purity are in an inverse ratio to the practice. It will scarcely be disputed that London is, at this present writing, not merely the most immoral, but the most openly and indecently immoral capital in Europe. Things not only happen every day in England, but are every day recorded there for the amusement and information of the breakfast-tables where sit her matrons and maidens, that not only do not and could not happen elsewhere, but could not be put into words if they did. And yet in England it was that because Count D'Orsay, while a mere boy, made the fatal mistake of marrying one beautiful woman, while he was, without daring to confess it even to himself, madly devoted to another still more beautiful, whom he could not marry—because, I say, under these circumstances, and discovering his fatal error when too late, he separated himself from his wife almost at the church door, he was, during the greater part of his social career in England, cut off from the advantages of the more fastidious portion of high female society by the indignant fiat of its heads and leaders. And this was in England, where people who can afford it change wives with each other by Act of Parliament, giving and receiving the estimated difference of the value of the article in pounds sterling! And where such an arrangement does not necessarily preclude even the female parties to it from enjoying the social privileges of their class, and does not at all affect the males! In England!—where no married man in high life is thought the worse of, or treated the worse, even by the female friends of his wife, for being suspected of having a mistress or two. In England!—where every unmarried man in high life is compelled to keep a mistress whether he likes it or not, unless he would put his character in jeopardy!

"If the explanation of this apparent anomaly in the case of Count D'Orsay be asked, all that can be replied is, that his supposed conduct under the difficult circumstances in which he found himself was not exactly *selon les règles* of English society. Moreover, if he really did commit a breach of these rules (which, by the bye, half the world, and they by no means the worst-informed half, did not believe), the scandal of a tacit avowal of the breach was studiously and successfully avoided; which is a great crime in England, where you may be as immoral as you please, provided you show no signs of being ashamed of it."

There are several interesting letters, written with great elegance and feeling, from the pen of the author of 'Tremaine'; but they are mostly on confidential matters, and among those that are not, we are uncertain as to whether they have not been already published.

#### NOTICES.

*The Wife's Manual: Prayers, Thoughts, and Songs, for several occasions of a Matron's Life.* By the Rev. W. Calvert, M.A. Longman and Co.

A VERY pleasing and acceptable volume of poetry Mr. Calvert has written, under the title of 'The Wife's Manual.' Few are the circumstances of a matron's life for which suitable prayers, thoughts, or songs are not here provided. Beginning with 'The Bride's Prayer,' and a 'Wedding Song,' all manner of subjects are selected, so as to give expression to the thoughts and feelings of a wife or a mother. For her husband in his absence, for her husband in sickness, for her own relations, before entering into society, when recovering from confinement, for her infant, a mother's farewell on a son going out into the world, or a daughter about to be married—these are a few of the varied titles of the poems. There are songs for times of prosperity, and plaintive pieces for times of adversity, such as on the death of a child, after domestic disputes, on the estrangement of her husband's affections, and in the first hours of widowhood. There are about fifty pieces in all. We give as specimens the following lines on 'Absence':—

"A weary weight my bosom bears  
Throughout the lonely day;  
My heart, amidst its household cares,  
Still feels thou art away.  
I miss the glance of those dear eyes,  
The merry passing word:  
The kind reproof, the mild advice,  
'Midst lighter converse heard."

"Each cheerless meal, each silent walk,  
Is full of thoughts of thee;  
I seem to hear when others talk,  
To see what others see,  
While my rapt fancy loves to roam  
To thy far distant side,  
And longs to bid thee welcome home,  
At quiet eventide."

"Still, at this holy trusting hour,  
Do our fond spirits meet,  
When I my heart-petitions pour  
Before the mercy-seat.  
Oh! would that thou wert really near,  
That those loved lips of thine,  
Might kiss away this anxious tear,  
And blend thy prayer with mine."

The tone of true piety pervading the poems may be seen in these lines, headed 'In the Time of Adversity':—

"Thou that with weary steps and shelterless,  
Didst tread this earth for our unworthy sakes,  
Nurtured and despoiled, a man of grief,  
With few that loved thee, and those few how poor!  
Oh! visit me in this, our sad estate,  
And teach my far too stubborn heart to bow  
Resign'd and humble to thy wise behests.  
Deserted by the world, be thou my guest,  
And dwell with me, diverting every thought  
Into the narrow channel of my duty.  
Drive from my breast regret and discontent;  
Inspire my lips with comfort-breathing words;  
And give me strength and freshened energy  
To cheer my fellow-traveller on his way.  
Up the rough, stony road that lies before us,  
From our own sad experience may we learn  
To pity those around us in distress,  
And give with willing heart our little aid.  
So teach us both, as worldly means decrease,  
To fix our wishes on those better joys,  
Purchased for us by thy most precious blood.  
These hopes, that peace, which never know decay,  
Which the world cannot give nor take away."

'The Wife's Manual' is beautifully printed, and very tastefully ornamented, in the style of Queen Elizabeth's 'Prayer-book,' printed in 1569, facsimiles of many of the woodcuts in which are given in the side-pieces of this volume, which is a really handsome as well as appropriate marriage gift-book.

*Westminster Abbey; or, the Days of the Reformation.* By the Author of 'Whitefriars.' Mortimer.

*Angelo; a Romance of Modern Rome.* Bentley. THESE two novels are somewhat analogous in their subjects, dealing largely in stories of Popish plots and horrors, and the story of both of them, though marked by some exaggeration and improbability, presents striking characters and incidents. In 'Westminster Abbey' the scenes are laid in the days of the Reformation, and the reader follows the fortunes of Raphael Roodspere, a natural son of Cardinal Wolsey, who has become tainted with heretical doctrines at Cambridge, and falls in love with a novice to whom he is confessor. The story of 'Angelo' details Jesuit plots and murders, and in it, too, a priest, sent to proselytize in Wales, is himself converted, and after escaping many dangers and troubles, marries the object of his affections.

*Africa and the American Flag.* By Commander Andrew H. Foote, U.S. Navy, Lieutenant-Commanding the U.S. brig *Perry* on the coast of Africa, 1850-1851. New York: Appleton. London: Trübner and Co.

BESIDES the narrative of his own services while on the African coast, Commander Foote gives very interesting notices of the country and its inhabitants, and especially of Liberia and the other points whence it may be reasonably hoped that civilization and Christianity will be diffused through the dark and unhappy regions so long the scene of the slave trade and other abominations and cruelties. Some of the practical suggestions for putting down the nefarious traffic are worthy of the attention of English philanthropists and statesmen. If the spirit displayed in Commander Foote's book more generally prevailed in the United States the time



would be hastened for happier days dawning on Africa. The volume is illustrated with coloured lithograph engravings.

*A Manual of Practical Therapeutics, considered chiefly with Reference to the Articles of the Materia Medica.* By Edward John Waring, H.E.I.C.S. Smith, Elder, and Co.

MANY valuable works on *Materia Medica* have recently appeared, but in none is so large a proportion of the space allotted to the medicinal applications of the substances described. The author's experience in the East has enabled him to direct his attention specially to subjects likely to prove useful to medical officers in the service of the East India Company, to whom his volume is dedicated. But for practitioners at home, or in any country, this *Manual of Therapeutics* will be found an extremely useful book of study or reference. The range of reading in collecting materials for the work has been great, and the authorities for particular points of treatment are carefully cited in footnotes. Dr. Waring deserves greater credit for the elaborate and comprehensive character of his work, when it is considered that it was prepared while he was stationed in a remote and isolated outpost in the Tenasserim provinces, with rare opportunities of meeting professional brethren or of obtaining books for consultation.

#### SUMMARY.

For students of Oriental literature, a very acceptable work has appeared in *A Descriptive Catalogue of the Historical Manuscripts in the Arabic and Persian Languages in the Library of the Royal Asiatic Society*, by William H. Morley, (John W. Parker and Son.) General notices are given of each history, with short accounts of the author where procurable, details being added regarding particular manuscripts, as to their external form and condition, as well as their subjects and contents. There are a hundred and sixty-three volumes described, many of them of much rarity and value. An index is appended of names of works, and also of names of authors. The Catalogue is printed by order of the Council of the Asiatic Society, who have thereby rendered good service to students of Eastern history and literature. Mr. Morley has performed his work with much judgment and ability, and we lay aside his book among our manuals of reference with a wish that similar catalogues could be prepared of some of the other public libraries of Europe, where important and valuable manuscripts are lying unknown and useless to the student or historiographer.

*A Treatise on Diseases of the Lungs*, having especial reference to consumption, including diagnosis and treatment, is published by Anthony William Clarke, M.D., (Highley,) in which the author states the result of his own observations, and of his study of the works of other authors who have written on this class of diseases. His volume does not profess to offer any novel or striking facts, but is intended as a concise manual for the use of junior practitioners.

In Highley's 'Library of Science and Art,' section, Medical Sciences, a translation is given of Weber's *Clinical Handbook of Auscultation and Percussion*, by John Cockle, M.D. Of all the improvements in the study of diseases of the respiratory and circulating organs since the time of Laennec, this treatise contains a clear and comprehensive view, and it is well adapted to form a practical handbook of auscultation and percussion. (S. Highley.) *A Letter to the President and Fellows of the Royal College of Physicians on the Treatment of Epidemic Cholera*, by Joseph Ayre, M.D., (J. Churchill,) relates chiefly to the evidence on the treatment collected in their late official report. The writer is a strenuous advocate of the treatment by camolene, aided by camphor and opium. No Indian doctor is more free in his use and his praise of camolene than Dr. Ayre of Hull.

Mr. Hullah has published his lecture, forming one of the series now delivering in St. Martin's Hall, in connexion with the Educational Exhibition, *Music as an Element of Education*, (John

W. Parker and Son.) On this subject no one is better qualified to speak, and more worthy to be heard, than Mr. Hullah, the success of whose popular educational efforts has now been fully tested on a large scale. The remarks on the education of the voice in connexion with public religious worship, deserve particular attention.

The Ellerton Theological Prize Essay for 1854, *The State of the Church in Britain at the time of Augustine's Mission*, by Frederic Meadows White, B.A., (Seeleys,) contains a review of the extent of the British Church at that period, and of its doctrine, discipline, and condition, the author's practical application of the inquiry being to show that the British Church had a settled and independent organization, upon which Romish innovations were gradually engrafted.

The volume in Bohn's Standard Library for the month is a *History of Russia*, compiled from the works of Karansin, Tooke, Ségur, and other sources, by Walter K. Kelly. The history will be completed in two volumes. The parts which we have examined indicate varied and careful study on the part of the author. The second volume of *De Foe's Works*, in the series of British Classics (H. G. Bohn), contains Memoirs of a Cavalier, Memoirs of Captain Carleton, and minor pieces. In the Scientific Library (H. G. Bohn), the second volume is published of *Ennenoser's History of Magic*, translated from the German by William Howitt. The appendix contains a collection of the most extraordinary or best authenticated dreams, apparitions, trances, ecstasies, and other manifestations allied to the subjects of the volume, selected from various sources by Mary Howitt. In the Illustrated Library (H. G. Bohn), is given a *History of the Jesuits, their Origin, Progress, and Designs*, by G. B. Nicolini of Rome, author of the 'History of the Pontificate of Pius IX.' Signor Nicolini has in this volume given a remarkably clear and concise view of the spirit and designs of the Order, as exemplified in their past history, with special warnings as to their proceedings in this country. In the Classical Library (H. G. Bohn), a literal translation, with notes, is commenced of *The Geography of Strabo*, the first six books by H. C. Hamilton, Esq., and the remainder by W. Falconer, M.A. This is the first English Version of Strabo's Geography, upon the Greek text of which German scholars have recently bestowed much successful labour. The work is a valuable and acceptable addition to the Classical Library.

To the school series of books, edited by the Rev. B. R. Gleig, Inspector-general of Military Schools, is added a little *Treatise on Electricity*, by Thomas Tate, (Longman and Co.)

A humorous series of sketches, by William Brough, entitled *Our own Correspondent at the Seat of War*, (E. Tinsley,) contains some clever and amusing writing, but the subjects are scarcely suited for some of the jests in which the writer indulges.

#### LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

- Adams's Latin Delectus, 12mo, cloth, reduced, 2s. 6d.  
 Bud of Promise, 2nd edition, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
 Chevreul (M. E.) on Colours, post 8vo, cloth, 12s. 6d.  
 Cumming's (Dr.) Signs, Part 2, fcp. sewed, 1s. 6d.; cl. 2s. 6d.  
 — Readings: St. Luke, fcp. cloth, 6s.  
 Defence of the Eclipse of Faith, 2nd edition, post 8vo, 5s. 6d.  
 Dickens's (C.) Hard Times, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Firmilian: a Spasmodic Tragedy, by F. P. James, p. 8vo, 5s.  
 Fraser's (Rev. R. W.) Turkey, post 8vo, cloth, 7s. 6d.  
 Fullon's (S. W.) Great Highway, post 8vo, cloth, 5s.  
 Hoblyn's Medical Dictionary, 12mo, cloth, 10s.  
 Large Print Greek Testament, 8vo, cloth, 15s.  
 M'Burnie's (D.) Error of Infidelity, fcp. 8vo, cloth, 2s. 6d.  
 National Illustrated Library: Johnson's Poets, Vol. 4, 2s. 6d.  
 Rochet's Lectures on Ancient Art, Illustrated, post 8vo, 5s.  
 Sterne's (Rev. H.) Drawings of Light in the East, 8vo, 8s.  
 Stowe's (Mrs.) Sunny Memories, 12mo, boards, 2s.  
 Thomson's Exposition of the Acts of the Apostles, 10s. 6d.  
 Thornton's (T.) Zohrab, fcp. cloth, reduced, 2s. 6d.  
 Tiesset's French Instructor, 12mo, cloth, 3s. 6d.  
 Tregelles on the Printed Text of the Greek New Test. 10s. 6d.  
 Universal Library: Essays, Vol. 1, royal 8vo, cloth, 6s.  
 — Parallel Chronology, oblong cloth, 7s.  
 Walford's (E.) Exercises in Latin Verse, 2nd series, 2s. 6d.  
 — Prose, 12mo, cloth, 2s. 6d.

#### THE GUILD OF LITERATURE AND ART.

AFTER long delay, the causes of which are fully explained, the chief being the obtaining the Act of Incorporation, the Council of the Guild have published an Address to their brethren and to the public. We take the opportunity of recalling attention to the objects contemplated in this Institution, and the means by which it is sought to attain them. The main design of the founders was to establish some organization of the literary profession, and to enable authors and artists, on the principles of association and of mutual aid, to secure advantages similar to those enjoyed by other societies and brotherhoods. The special objects of the Guild are thus described by the Council:—

"The objects of the Society are these:—To encourage Life and Annuity Assurance among its members, on more favourable terms than such insurers could obtain without its aid; to assist its members in temporary distress to pay their premiums when they become due; to establish a Provident Sickness Fund; to endow an Institution which shall have at its disposal certain residences and annuities, to which only members and (as to annuities, only) the widows of members, shall be eligible to be elected; which shall not be an Institution of an eleemosynary character, but with which some popular service shall be associated, and from which the public shall derive some educational advantages."

"The Guild shall carry out three objects: Firstly, Life and Annuity Assurance; Secondly, Provision for its Professional Members during Sickness; Thirdly, the Foundation and Endowment of an Institution to be called 'The Guild Institution.'"

"1. *Life and Annuity Assurance.*—The Guild will obtain Assurances on Lives, Assurances for securing deferred Annuities, and Assurances for Endowments at all ages, according to tables hereunto annexed. Although all proposals for assurance in connexion with the Guild will be submitted to its Secretary, and although all premiums will be paid through him, the Guild itself will not assure Lives, Deferred Annuities, or Endowments; but will confide the whole management and responsibility of those branches of its business to The National Provident Institution, as a mutual Assurance Office, the profits of which are divided among the Assurers. Upon such assurances the Guild will receive a commission of five per cent., without any cost to the Assurer; who could not, it is to be understood, obtain such allowance for himself or herself. This item of receipt will be carried to the credit of the Guild, and form a part of the general fund to be appropriated as hereafter mentioned."

"2. *The Guild Provident Sickness Fund.*—The Guild will receive payments from Professional Members, according to tables hereunto annexed for provision in sickness, the amount of such provision to be governed by the condition of this special fund at the time an invalid Member may apply to receive it: and no such Member shall be entitled to draw from the fund until he has subscribed to it two years, unless the sickness on account of which the claim is made shall have arisen from accident. The payments made to this fund shall be kept distinct from the other funds of the Guild."

"3. *The Guild Institution.*—The Guild will at a future time found annuities, to which Professional Members, and the Widows of Professional Members, shall be eligible; of which the object will be to associate an honourable rest from arduous labours with the discharge of congenial duties in connexion with popular instruction. It will also erect a limited number of free residences, on land to be presented for this purpose by Sir E. Bulwer-Lytton, and which will be occupied by the male annuitants elected on this foundation. The several annuitants will be elected by the Council, who will also allot the free residences; and in case any annuitant shall in the opinion of the Council be guilty of any misconduct, the Council shall have power to vacate the annuity and remove the offending person from the free residence he may occupy."

The members of the Guild are to be divided into

two classes, Professional and Honorary, and their mode of election is thus explained in the bye-laws approved by the Council, and to be submitted to the members for confirmation:—

"Persons desirous of becoming Professional Members must be recommended for admission by two Professional Members of the Guild, or by one of the Council, and must be persons following Literature or the Fine Arts as a profession, which qualification is hereby defined to mean—Writers, of either sex, of books not being translations, (translations from the ancient and Eastern languages excepted,) and writers in periodicals; writers of dramatic and other theatrical pieces, not being translations or adaptations from any foreign language; Exhibitors of either sex of works of original design in painting or sculpture, or architecture, at any public exhibition in the United Kingdom; Designers of approved merit for engravers, and Engravers. Any question which may arise as to any candidate possessing the necessary qualification shall be decided by the Council; and the decision which may be come to shall be stated in the minutes of the day's proceedings. Every Professional Member shall, unless assured in another office before Christmas, 1853, effect an assurance through this Society; and in the event of his being so assured elsewhere, he must subscribe to the Guild Provident Sickness Fund, or effect an additional assurance through this Society.

"The minimum of assurance through the Guild, or in other offices, shall be for the sum of 100*l.*; and Members not assured through the Guild shall produce their receipts of premiums paid, whenever called upon by the Council to do so. All Members who shall make default in payment of their subscriptions for one calendar month after the same shall become due, or who shall neglect, decline, or refuse to conform in all respects to the Bye-laws for the time being of the Guild, shall thereby respectively forfeit all claims upon the Guild or the funds thereof, and shall cease to be Members of it.

"The names of persons applying to become Members of the Guild, with the names of the persons or person recommending them, shall be entered in a candidates' book at least one month before the Council proceed to admission.

"Each candidate is required to pay, on being admitted, an entrance fee of two guineas.

"Honorary Members shall be elected by the Council, and shall consist of persons distinguished by their knowledge or encouragement of Literature or the Fine Arts, and who shall contribute one guinea and upwards annually, or not less than ten guineas in one sum to the objects of the Guild; but such Members shall not participate in any of the pecuniary benefits offered to Professional Members. Honorary Members will, however, have the privilege of attending (but not of voting at) the annual General Meeting of the members of the Guild. Each Honorary Member will be further entitled to a free admission to any lectures or meetings for popular instruction that shall take place under the direction of the Guild. Under the same conditions physicians or surgeons, not being subscribers or donors, whose gratuitous advice and assistance may be granted in connexion with the Sickness Provident Fund, may also be elected by the Council as Honorary Members."

The funds at the disposal of the Council are sufficient for commencing active operations only on the most limited scale. The establishment of the Guild Institution must be postponed, but the Council provide that as soon as there is an available surplus of 4000*l.*, invested to the separate credit of the Institution, this department of the scheme shall be carried out. Half of the gross funds of the Society are to be carried for accumulation during the first seven years, for the Institution Fund, and the other half of the gross funds are allotted to the following uses:—

"*The Assurance and Provident Augmentation Fund.*—The first moiety of the Society's funds shall be appropriated to three objects; Firstly, to render temporary assistance to professional members by way of loan without interest, towards the

payment of their premiums of assurance when they themselves shall be proved to the satisfaction of the Council to be unable to meet those demands.

"Secondly, to aid payments similarly to The Provident Sickness Fund.

"Thirdly, to allot once in every seven years all the Society's residuary profits under those heads, in augmentation of the several advantages originally proposed to be secured by the several tables of premiums."

The sources of regular revenue will be members' fees, percentages on life policies, viz.—five per cent. commission from the National Provident Institution, donations, subscriptions, bequests, and interest of invested capital. According to the report of the Treasurer, the Association, at present, has a balance of 3790*l.* 16*s.* 11*d.* The expenses have been 393*l.* 11*s.*; and the whole sum of 4184*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* was derived from the following sources:—From the amateur dramatic performance of the Guild 3615*l.* 11*s.* 11*d.*, of which 550*l.* was from Sir E. B. Lytton, the acting and publishing copyright of the comedy *Not so Bad as we seem*. The remainder of the 4184*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* was derived from donations and annual subscriptions, 532*l.*; and interest of invested funds, 36*l.* 16*s.* The whole sum is of small amount for the objects contemplated, and the most unpromising feature is the smallness of the proportion derived from donations and subscriptions. The extraordinary exertions of the dramatic performers have provided the chief nucleus of the Society's funds. The Address contains an abridgement of the Act to Incorporate the Guild, (17 Vict., cap. 54, 2nd June, 1854,) and the bye-laws for the management of the Society, with lists of the office-bearers, and tables of premiums for the life-assurance department and for the Guild sickness fund. There are several points in the Address which are open to criticism and discussion, but we are unwilling, at present, to offer comments on the document, being desirous of allowing the Council to state the matter in their own way to the literary public. We fear some difficulty may arise from the broad distinction made between professional and honorary members, which will go far to create the feeling of eleemosynary dependence which the Institution professes to ignore. The distinction forms part of the Act of Incorporation, but it would be well if the number of honorary members were more limited, and if all members were, to a certain extent, equally to support the Guild, leaving it to the option of each member whether to decline or to use the benefits provided by the Institution. The patronising spirit implied in an upper chamber of honorary members may check the cordial support which might otherwise be derived from the general body of professional members; or, at least, the Guild will not sufficiently differ in its scope and objects from the Literary Fund, and other benevolent institutions for affording pecuniary assistance to authors and artists. On this and other points we would like to have further explanations. We wish all success to the Institution, and trust that the wisdom and energy of its management may correspond with the honourable and benevolent designs of its projectors and founders.

#### TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

THE reported arrival of Dr. Livingston in the province of Angola, after traversing the interior of Africa from the Cape Colony, seems to mark another important step in geographical discovery. In a letter sent to Lord Ellesmere, as President of the Geographical Society, Mr. Gabriel, writing on the 15th May, at St. Paul de Loando, encloses the following extract from a Portuguese commercial agent at Cassange, dated April 18th, 1854:—"I must not omit to acquaint you that I have drawn upon you in favour of Dr. Livingston, a subject of Her Britannic Majesty, for 100 milreis, in part payment of a small quantity of ivory which I have purchased from him. This gentleman has just arrived here, having traversed, with the most insignificant resources, the whole of the interior from the Cape of Good Hope, whence

he set out on his journey. What he wishes to acquire is, not money, but a good name. He is a missionary, and appears to be a man of much erudition, zealously applying himself to the attainment of a knowledge of the geography of the country. In the maps of the interior of Africa he will make very great and important disclosures." Mr. Gabriel states that Cassange is about 180 miles from St. Paul de Loando, in an easterly direction, and is the seat of a busy trade between the Portuguese and the natives of the interior. He has no doubt as to the correctness of the information communicated as to Dr. Livingston, the success of whose explorations, we trust, will soon be confirmed.

The sale of the books, manuscripts, and letters of the poet Gray, forming part of the library formerly belonging to Granville Penn, Esq., of Stoke Manor, Buckinghamshire, took place last Friday, at Messrs. Sotheby and Wilkinson's rooms. The chief object of interest was the original autograph manuscript of the 'Elegy,' which was sold, after considerable competition, to Mr. Wrightson for 131*l.* The manuscript is inscribed by Gray, 'Stanzas wrote in a Country Churchyard,' and in Mason's handwriting it is inscribed, 'Original copy of the Elegy in a Country Churchyard.' In confirmation of the authenticity of this as the original completed copy, the remark of Mason deserves to be noted, when he says that Gray "originally gave it only the simple title of Stanzas," and that he persuaded him first to call it an Elegy. The manuscript copy at Cambridge is so inscribed, and the rejected stanzas, which appear in this manuscript, are omitted in that, so that the present copy has every indication of priority, and as far as is known of being the original autograph. The manuscript of the 'Long Story,' accompanied by the little note left on Gray's table from Lady Schaub, and Miss Speed's complimentary letter, was sold for 25*l.* The autograph of the song 'Thyrsis, when we parted, swore,' and other manuscripts in one lot, 16*l.* The correspondence between Gray and his friend Mason, preserved in two volumes, imperial quarto, finely bound, sold to Mr. Holloway for 31*l.* The Strawberry Hill copy of 'Gray's Odes,' beautifully bound, the margins of the pages containing numerous manuscript notes by the poet, fetched 37*l.* 10*s.* Six manuscript note books, used by the poet during travels on the Continent and in this country, 26*l.* 10*s.* A number of interesting manuscript letters formed part of the sale, but most, if not all of them, have already been published. There were also a few of the books belonging to Gray, with copious notes in his minute and neat handwriting.

The following is the official programme of the proceedings of the British Association at Liverpool:—*Wednesday, 20th September.*—General Committee Meeting at two o'clock; Mayor's dinner to the Principal Officers of the Association at five o'clock; Address of the President, the Earl of Harrowby, at eight o'clock. *Thursday, 21st.*—Sectional Meetings; Soirée in St. George's Hall at eight o'clock. *Friday, 22nd.*—Sectional Meetings; Evening, eight o'clock; Professor Owen's Lecture 'On the Anthropomorphic Apes.' *Saturday, 23rd.*—Sectional Meetings; President's Dinner at five o'clock; Evening, Mayor's Soirée in the Town Hall. *Monday, 25th.*—General Council Meeting; Evening, Lecture 'On Terrestrial Magnetism,' by Colonel Sabine. *Tuesday, 26th.*—Sectional Meetings; Evening, Conversations, and Illustrations, by Professor Stokes, Dubosc, and the Abbé Maignot, of Certain Properties of Light; Exhibition of Moon's Photographs. *Wednesday, 27th.*—Final General Meeting at two o'clock; Evening, Soirée and Lecture given by the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. *Thursday, 28th.*—Excursion to Salt Mines at Northwich. *Friday, 29th.*—Excursion to Conway, Bangor, Anglesea.

The return moved for by Lord Redesdale the other night in the House of Commons, of all houses, buildings, &c., hired for official purposes, including crown property, will be one of much public interest. The expense and inconvenience of the present arrangements for carrying on the business of the country are inconceivable, and a detailed



statement of the situation of public offices, the accommodation provided, and the rents paid, will prepare for the great improvements necessary in this matter. The Duke of Newcastle said that about 20,000*l.* were paid annually as rent by the Woods and Forests department alone, independent of other offices. He thought that the interest of the whole sum required for providing complete accommodation for the public service, even if the plan were adopted of continuing the present buildings in Whitehall down to Great George-street, would not amount to more than the rent now paid annually. At present there are about fifty public offices for which rent is paid to private individuals, and seven or eight more held of the crown. In the course of Lord Redesdale's remarks, he proposed that Burlington-house, now national property, should be exchanged for Marlborough-house, and appropriated for the use of the Prince of Wales. We thought it was generally understood, when the vote for that purchase was agreed to, that Burlington-house was to be devoted to the use of the Learned Societies. The proposal for altering this arrangement will cause much dissatisfaction, if Government should seriously entertain it.

The Oriental and Turkish Museum, opened this week at St. George's Gallery, near Hyde Park Corner, is a really instructive as well as interesting exhibition, and well deserves to be visited. The collection contains a number of admirably modelled figures with every variety of national costume. Some of the groups strikingly illustrate the customs and manners of the Ottomans, of which mere readers of books of travel have but a vague conception. In Constantinople, the varied and picturesque garments of different classes of the people are rapidly being superseded by modes of dress adopted from Western Europe; but the present collection represents the original style and appearance of the costumes of Osmanlis of different classes, trades, and callings, including public and official functionaries, civil and military. In this view the Museum is a place for historical study, as well as for acquiring some knowledge of the arrangements of domestic life and manners in the Turkish empire. The guide-book to the museum contains much curious and useful information.

In consequence of the withdrawal of the Government grant of 2000*l.* towards the purchase of the scientific instruments and apparatus of Mr. Lawson, it is likely that the scheme of establishing the observatory at Nottingham will be abandoned. Mr. Lawson, it will be remembered, offered to the county of Nottingham his instruments for 2000*l.*, on condition of a building being found, and an endowment established, for a permanent observatory. On application being made to Government for aid, the matter was referred to the Astronomer Royal and to the Master of the Mint; and the report of Professor Airy and Sir John Herschel was, that there would be no national interest in having an astronomical observatory in the midland counties, but that a station for meteorological observation might be advantageously established. The interest in the proposal was thus much lessened, and on examination of the instruments offered for purchase, it was thought that too large a sum was expected, although the owner was parting with them on public grounds at a sacrifice. The subscriptions of private individuals, it is announced, will be returned. The valuable meteorological reports from Nottingham, which the Messrs. Lowe of Highfield-house are in the habit of publishing, make us feel how regret that the Lawson observatory scheme has proved abortive, due credit being given to the projector for the public spirit of his proposal.

The following courses of lectures and practical demonstrations are announced for the session 1854-55, at the School of Science applied to Mining and the Arts, under the authority of the Board of Trade:—1. Chemistry, A. W. Hofmann, Ph.D., F.R.S. 2. Metallurgy, J. Percy, M.D., F.R.S. 3. Natural History, T. H. Huxley, F.R.S. 4. Mineralogy, W. W. Smyth, M.A. 5. Mining, W. W. Smyth, M.A. 6. Geology, A. C. Ramsay, F.R.S. 7. Applied Mechanics, Robert Willis, M.A., F.R.S. 8. Physics, G. G. Stokes, M.A.,

F.R.S. Instruction in Mechanical Drawing is given by Mr. Binns. The regulations as to fees are thus advertised:—The fee for matriculated students (exclusive of the laboratories) is 30*l.* for two years, in one payment, or two annual payments of 20*l.* Pupils are received in the Royal College of Chemistry, the laboratory of the department, at a fee of 10*l.*, for the term of three months. The same fee is charged in the Metallurgical Laboratory. Tickets to separate courses of lectures are issued at 2*l.*, 3*l.*, and 4*l.* each. Officers in the Queen's or East India Company's service, acting mining agents and managers, may obtain them at half the usual charge. Certificated Schoolmasters, Pupil teachers, and others engaged in education, are admitted to the lectures at reduced fees. The opening lecture of the session will be delivered on the 2nd October, at the Museum of Practical Geology in Jernyn-street.

German journals announce that Dr. Schletter, Professor of Law at the University of Leipsic, has discovered, in the library of that city, a complete manuscript copy of the penal code promulgated by Charles V. in 1532, of which code only fragments, and those incomplete, were known to exist. The discovery is of considerable importance, as, apart from its historical interest, the code is the foundation of the criminal law of Germany.

The intelligence arrived yesterday, by telegraphic despatch, of the death of the King of Saxony, who was thrown from his carriage, while travelling between Munich and Dresden. The late king was an enthusiastic naturalist, botany being his favourite department, and he was honourably distinguished as a patron of science and art.

M. de Norvius, author of an esteemed 'History of Napoleon,' in French, and of other works, has just died; so, also, has Paolo Toschi, an eminent engraver of Italy.

The Rev. Arthur Penrhyn Stanley, the biographer of Dr. Arnold, has been appointed Chaplain in Ordinary to H.R.H. Prince Albert, *vice* Dr. Richards, deceased.

At the Royal Italian Opera Madame Grisi's last performance took place on Monday evening. *Norma* and the *Huguenots* were the operas selected, and in both her appearance was every way worthy of the reputation she has long maintained as the greatest living artiste in the lyric drama. Rarely in her best days had her singing been heard with greater effect, and never were her talents as an actress more conspicuously displayed. It is needless to say that the enthusiasm of the audience was great, and the ovation at the close of the performance triumphant. Besides the ordinary expressions of gratulation, by vociferous applause and showers of bouquets, a more marked testimony of respectful admiration was shown by the whole house rising on her reappearance; and when she retired at last, it was evidently with a depth of feeling which was shared by many whom she has so long delighted by her unrivalled performances. It should be added, that Mario and all who took part in these closing representations exerted themselves to the utmost, and the whole performances were worthy of the occasion. Madame Grisi and Mario have since left Liverpool in the *Baltic* for New York, where they commence an engagement in the beginning of September. Rossini's opera, *Le Comte d'Ory*, or, in Italian phrase, *Il Conte Ory*, has at length been produced, being given for the first time on Tuesday. Although announced at the beginning of the season among the novelties to be brought forward, it can scarcely be called new even to this country, the opera having been performed some years since at the St. James's Theatre. But this is the first time of its production in England at the Italian Opera. So far as Rossini's music is concerned, every one must have been charmed with the abundance of lively and flowing melody, and the skilfully constructed harmony, by which the piece is characterized. The performance was also admirable, both on the stage and in the orchestra. M. Costa deserves high praise for the perfection with which such a work was given for the first time. Mdlle. Bosio sustained the principal part as the Countess Adèle, and did ample justice to Rossini's music by her sweet and skilful singing.

The part of the *Comte d'Ory* was taken by Lucchesi, and is well adapted to his style of singing. The other leading characters were thus disposed:—*Isoliera*, the Count's page, Mdlle. Marai; *Roberto*, friend of the Count, Tagliafico; *L'Aio*, the tutor, Zelger; and *Rugonda*, keeper of the castle, Mdlle. Nantier Didié. Among the passages most pleasing or best given, we may note the air of *Adèle* to the Count disguised as a hermit, 'Buon eremita,' which was beautifully sung by Mdlle. Bosio; the sextette, 'O terror, O smania, O pena,' towards the close of the first act, the duet between the Count and *Adèle*, and the trio, 'D' amor e di speranza,' charmingly given by Mdlles. Bosio, Marai, and S. Lucchesi. There are some unusually good choruses in the opera, and they were sung with correctness and spirit. The chorus at the end of the first act, without instrumental accompaniment, that in the carousing scene, 'Beviam, beviam,' and the 'Evviva l'allegria,' were especially well done. Having said thus much about the music and the performance, we must add, that the effect of the whole opera is spoiled by the thorough badness of the *libretto*. The story is not only offensive, so far as its morality goes, but it is extremely stupid and silly. The old French tale about a parcel of monks getting access to a nunnery in the disguise of a company of female pilgrims during a storm is travestied, the convent being changed into the château of the Countess Adèle, into which *Comte d'Ory* and some of his gay companions are admitted. The grossness of the plot is unrelieved by any genius or humour, and there is a succession of absurd improbabilities, as when the deep male voices of the disguised cavaliers are never suspected, and when the carousers strike up a noisy chorus before *Adèle* and her attendants are well out of sight. The whole is repugnant to good taste as well as right feeling, and our regret is that Rossini's music is marred by being wedded to such trash. If the directors keep *Comte d'Ory* on their permanent *répertoire* it is quite worth while having an amended *libretto*. The story, even with its present theme, is capable of proper reconstruction. M. Scribe's adaptation of a popular tale is unworthy of the name he has as a clever dramatical writer. Our remarks will of course not be appreciated by those who are satisfied with the excellent performance of Rossini's music. But we think that no opera can or ought to attain to solid popularity without some intellectual pleasure accompanying mere acoustic gratification. This is not the case with the *Comte d'Ory* as now given, and we question much whether even the excellence of the musical and dramatic performance will secure for it a high place in public favour. It is to be repeated this evening, which is the last subscription night of the season. The *Prophète* was given on Thursday evening.

Madame Stoltz is re-engaged at the Grand Opera at Paris, and is to appear at the commencement of the new season, on the 15th of this month. A Madame Donata has also been engaged, and she is expected to turn out well. The representations of the *Etoile du Nord* of Meyerbeer at the Opéra Comique have been suspended, owing to some of the principal singers going away *en congé*. M. Perrin, the clever and lucky director of that theatre, has decidedly obtained the concession of the Théâtre Lyrique. Musical composers grumble greatly at seeing the two theatres united in the same hands. Roger is singing with great success in Germany.

At the Surrey theatre Meyerbeer's *Prophet* has been produced as an English opera this week, with a success that must be highly gratifying to the enterprising managers. The part of *Jeau de Leyden* is taken by Mr. Augustus Braham, *Cont Oberthal* by Mr. Corri, *Bertha* by Miss Rebekah Isaacs, and *Fides* by Miss Romer. The performances are most creditable, and the piece is brought out with imposing display, as a spectacle well suited to prove attractive in that transpontine theatre.

Drury Lane is to be re-opened to-night, under a new management. The opera is *Lucrèce Borgia*, the principal parts being sustained by Madame Caradori, Miss Fanny Huddart, Signors Pavesi and Arnoldi.



## PROCEEDINGS OF SOCIETIES.

GEOGRAPHICAL. — June 12th. — Sir Roderick I. Murchison, Vice-President, in the chair. W. M. Beaufort, Esq., Mr. Consul Brand, Frederick Calvert, Esq., Q.C., W. F. De la Rue, Esq., H. C. Eiffe, Esq., A. Gammell, Esq., Peter Hardy, Esq., Colonel Revell Phillips, Sir James Ramsay, Bart., George Slater, Esq., Captain C. Thompson, and John Yeates, Esq., were elected Fellows. The papers read were:—1. 'Late Tour to Medina and Mecca, made by Lieutenant R. Burton, of the Indian Army, at the expense of the Society, with route from Yambo on the Red Sea. Condensed by Sir Gardner Wilkinson.' The object of Lieutenant Burton's journey in Arabia was to cross the Peninsula from El Medeenah to Muscat, or from Mecca to Makulla on the Indian Ocean; but finding the state of the country too unsettled at the time, and his leave of absence too short to admit of his waiting for a more propitious moment, he was only enabled to perform the two short journeys from Yambo (Enba) to Medeenah, and from this last to Mecca. The former of these is the subject of the present communication. After noticing his departure from Southampton, in April, 1853, and his arrival in Cairo, he describes the precautions he adopted for travelling through the 'Holy Land' of Arabia, so rigidly forbidden to Christians, and the disguise he assumed for this purpose. During his stay at Cairo he became an Indian doctor, and having supplied himself with 'one of those preposterous outfits, thought necessary for all Eastern travellers to the Hedjaz, which can only find a parallel in the baggage of our East India cadets,' he proceeded to Suez, where by good fortune a young man of Mecca and a respectable party of Medeenah people, believing him to be what his second disguise proclaimed, an Afghan pilgrim, became his friends, and offered to take him to their native city. By this means he was enabled to reach Medeenah without suspicion, and at the 'prophet's burial place' managed to visit the mosque, to sketch the town, and to visit all the consecrated environs with the exception of Khaybar. At Mecca, too, he had afterwards an opportunity of seeing all the ceremonies of the Haj (Hadji), made a plan of the Kaabah, and, after visiting the most interesting objects of that holy city, returned to Egypt with the title and character of a real Hadji; which may do him good service on some future occasion in these countries. The narrative of his journey from Suez must be given in his own words, though somewhat curtailed in order to accommodate it to the necessary limits of this paper:—'We embarked on board the *Golden Wire*, a pilgrim ship, belonging to a merchant of Suez. Her rig and build, like that of all the Red Sea craft, have a general resemblance to the Indian pattimar, which I believe to be the most ancient shape in the Eastern world after the 'Catamaran' and the 'Ioni,' or hollowed mango trunk. The Western Arabs still know only two kinds of vessels, the 'Sambuk' and the 'Baghlah,' differing in tonnage, not in shape; while the Eastern Arabs have almost as many varieties of craft as we have. This arises from the circumstance that timber for ship-building is not to be found on the shore of the Red Sea, for which reason the people never were and are not a nation of mariners; whereas the inhabitants of Oman, Hadramaut, and Yemen easily supplied their want of wood by trading for teak with Malabar. This traffic, which began doubtless in early ages, gave the Eastern Arabs a spirit of adventure familiarising them with navigation, afforded them an opportunity of colonizing, and opened India to their energy and industry. The owner of the *Golden Wire* had agreed to take sixty passengers—a cargo quite sufficient, with the mountainous heap of baggage, for an open decked-vessel of about seventy-five tons. Favoured by fortune, he filled it with 130 human beings, mostly Bedawin, from El-Maghrib (Western Africa), perhaps the greatest ruffians in Islam. I will not describe the daily fights we witnessed, and had sometimes to join in. Two men were stabbed in the port of Suez, and before we were half way between Egypt and Janibo,

the 'second class' generally made an energetic attempt to share with the 'first' the lofty poop of the *Golden Wire*. But we received them with our quarter-staves, and, after an elegant little defence of our vantage ground, we forced them to beat a retreat, when, in token of their repentance, they kissed our heads, shoulders, and knees, and having promised not to offend again during the rest of the voyage, they contented themselves with cursing us. We crept slowly down the coast of the Red Sea, and on the fifth day we slanted across the Gulf of Akabah, when, in the course of conversation, one of my companions mentioned a hill N.E. of Muwaylah (Moileh) called Gebel Ruman (Mountain of the Romans), and assured me it is covered with remains of ancient buildings. They might be worth exploring; and since Burckhardt's restoration of Petra to the world, and that profoundest of Arab travellers, Dr. George Wallin, of Finland, (papers on central Arabia), there has been no discovery in this region more interesting than would be the remains of Roman civilization in the wilds of Arabia. Near Muwaylah gold is still found. A Hadji of Cairo extorted with quicksilver no less than six drachms of dust out of fifty-two drachms of sand collected in a torrent bed, and, according to the testimony of the ancients, the precious metal was at one time plentiful in Arabia. We made Yambo on the 12th day after leaving Suez, and tottered ashore with cramped legs; some feverish, others covered with boils, and all suffering from the burning heat of the sun. Abstemiousness had been my safeguard during this voyage, as on my two subsequent journeys, and the pilgrimage time, when my bare head and almost naked body were exposed to the fires of an Arabian September. As precautions I avoided washing, because warm water debilitates and cold gives fever; a little oil or melted butter, and occasionally a bath of lukewarm water and henna paste to cool the skin, were found amply sufficient. For thirst, I neither chewed bullets nor washed hands, face, or feet, nor anointed my jaws with clarified butter, nor drank great quantities of liquid; the only remedy is patience, and after suffering for an hour or two the task is an easy one. When the skin is burned by the sun, white of egg cures the sore, which, if not attended to in these regions, may become very serious. And as in hot climates cold is injurious, it is as well not to be underdressed by day, and at night to sleep with a sheet drawn over the head as well as the body. Of Yambo I have nothing now to say, except that its population is considered the most bigoted and the best mariners in Western Arabia. We left on the 18th July, and followed a path directly eastward along the plain, between the Radhwah hills and the sea. There was no regular road; a trodden line traversed hard and level ground, strewn with lumps of granite, greenstone, and schist, rounded by the action of water, with here and there a little stunted vegetation in the shape of acacias and tufts of grass, coarse enough for brooms. The pace of the Hedjazi camel in a caravan is two miles an hour when travelling over a plain, and our first march was a short one of eight hours. Halting at three A.M., we found a grain-casla (or caravan) of about 200 head, with its armed drivers, and an escort of seven irregular Turkish horsemen, tolerably mounted, and each supplied with an armoury in epitome. 'July 19, at nine P.M., we arose. Prayers were said and pipes were smoked, and we congratulated ourselves on our escape from the towns. And here I may observe that my companions were strictly devout whenever we met strangers, whereas at all other times one only—the grandson of the Mufti of El-Medeenah—ever dreamed of preferring a prayer to a pipe. At a mile westward of our encampment lay the little village of Muzahhal, a straggling line of miserable clay hovels; on the south was a bright blue strip of the Red Sea, and all around stretched a plain of pebbles and gravel, bounded northwards by a wall of blackish rock, with here and there a shrub fit only for fuel, or a tuft of herbage crisp with heat. At three P.M., we were ready to start, and with joy saw a huge black cloud rise behind the shoulders of Radhwah, and array itself like a good genius between us and our fierce enemy

the sun. All hoped that it contained rain; but it was only a 'dry storm'—blasts of wind, hot as from a volcano, and fine sand—a phenomenon here common at this time of the year, and supposed to precede the autumnal rains. The same kind of desolate country continued the whole of that and the following day; and between ten and eleven P.M., we sighted human habitations for the first time since leaving Muzahhal, in the long straggling village called El-Hamra, from the red colour of the ravine on which it stands, and El-Wasitah, from being the half-way station between Yambo and El-Medeenah. We wandered in search of an encamping ground nearly an hour; for the hospitable villagers contented themselves with ordering us off every flat patch of ground where we proposed to pitch our tents; during which operation I was secretly warned by my companions to speak Arabic only, otherwise the gentry of El-Hamra would claim black mail for permitting me to pass through their streets. After much wrangling we found an encamping place; our jaded beasts were unloaded, the boxes and baggage were disposed of as a defence, and my friends, spreading their rugs upon their valuables, prepared to sleep. I was invited to join them, but firmly declined the vicinity of so many steaming and snoring fellow-creatures; and if some wonder was excited by the Afghan Hadji's obstinate restlessness, it was thought that a man from Cabul might be allowed to do strange things. The village is built on a narrow shelf between a high steep hill and a sandy ravine, about half a mile broad, with a winding bed. On all sides are rocks, so that you here find yourself in one of those punch-bowls which the Arabs seem to prefer to plains. The ravine threads the heights all the way from the Medeenah plateau; and during the rainy season it becomes a raging torrent, carrying westward to the Red Sea the drainage of a hundred hills. Good water is found in it by digging a few feet below the surface, at the re-entering angles; and El-Hamra is further supplied by a fine spring, which bubbles up from the base of the southern hills. The village is a collection of stunted houses, or rather hovels, made of unburnt bricks and mud, roofed over with date leaves, rarely boasting a bit of plank for a shutter, thickly peopled where the walls are standing, but, like all settlements in the Hedjaz, half in ruins. It contains a few shops in a long lane, and this bazaar, like the other streets, is full of glare and dust. Palm groves of considerable extent supply it with dates, and my companions found grain so cheap that they laid in a store for their families at El-Medeenah. Ready-made bread, horse-platains, rice, butter, and similar edibles, are also plentiful; and flocks of sheep and goats, driven in by sly shepherds, who would give no milk even in exchange for bread and meat. But I bought a large lamb for a pillar dollar; and we breakfasted merrily. Near our encampment was a fort, held by a troop of Arnauts, posted to defend the village and to escort merchant travellers, consisting of a wall loop-holed for musketry. El-Hamra is the third station from El-Medeenah, on the Derbees Sottadee ('royal' or 'high road'), the westerly highway along the sea-shore to Mecca. When robbers permit them, pilgrims prefer this route to all others, on account of the facility of procuring supplies, and of passing through the holy place of Beir. After midday of the 21st, a caravan *en route* from Mecca to El-Medeenah entered El-Hamra, and had interest enough to procure an escort and permission to proceed without delay. We joined them, starting from our halt at five p.m., and after a delay, occasioned by a band of Bedawin having positively objected to admit our escort of 200 irregulars, we passed about midnight through another straggling village called Gadayah, or El-Khayf, a 'decivilized' Like El-Hamra, it has a fort and springs of tolerably sweet water. A little beyond it is the Baghar, or defile, where the Egyptian army under Tussum Bey were totally defeated by the Harbi-Bedawin and the Wahabis in 1811 A.D. (and 'the disastrous day of Saffra and Gadayah' was long afterwards mentioned by the Turkish soldiery in Egypt with feelings of horror and regret). At four p.m., having travelled twenty-four miles due east, we were

camped at Bir-Abbás. Its position is like that of El-Hamra, and it has a stone fort, where troopers are stationed to protect travellers. Nothing worthy of note happened during our journey, till on the morning of the 24th July, at daybreak, we entered the ill-famed gorge called Shab-el-Hag (Shab-el-Hadij), 'The Pilgrim's Pass.' As we neared it, loud talkers became silent, and in their faces fear was written in a fine clear hand. Presently from the cliff on the left a thin curl of smoke rose in the morning air, preluding the matchlock's loud ring. A number of Bedawin, boys and men, were swarming like hornets over the crest, and clambering with admirable agility up the precipices, till comfortably seated behind a breastwork of stones, piled up as a defence and as a rifle rest, they fired down upon us with perfect convenience to themselves. It was useless to invite them to fight us upon the plain like men. On the eastern coast the robbers will sometimes do this, but not in the Hedjaz; and it was equally unprofitable to shoot at stones. Moreover, had a Bedawi been killed, the country would have risen *en masse*, and 3000 or 4000 robbers might have the courage to overpower a caravan, in which case there would have been a general cutting of throats. Their fire was directed principally against the Arnauts, who called for assistance from the party of Shayks that had accompanied us from Bir-Abbás; but those dignified ancients, dismounting and squatting round their pipes in council, came to the conclusion that as the Bedawin would probably turn a deaf ear to their words, they had better spare themselves the trouble of speaking. So we blazed away as much powder, and veiled ourselves in as thick a cloud as possible, and were obliged to be content to lose twelve men, besides camels and other beasts of burden. After an hour of hurrying on, we passed Shuhada, an unremarkable spot, with a few ruined walls, and a cluster of graves, each an oval of rough stone, containing the 'martyrs' crowned with glory in one of the Prophet's plundering expeditions, and in thirty minutes reached Bir-el-Hindj, a favourite halting-place, where some forgotten 'Indian' had dug a well. We jogged on, scarcely out of the cut-throat gorge, and the nests of the Hem'dah; and then, leaving the ravine, we struck off northwards into a well-trodden road, running over stony rising ground. The heat became sickening. At no time is the sun in these regions more dangerous than between eight and ten a.m., and it was eleven o'clock before we encamped. The station Suwaykeh is a rugged plain covered with stones, coarse gravel, and thorn trees, and surrounded by rocks pinnacle-shaped and calcareous on a granite base. We pitched our tent under a villanous mimosa, the tree whose shade is compared by these poetical thieves to the false one that deserts you when most needed; and on the 25th of July, as day dawned, finding all my friends were hurrying on with reckless haste, I inquired if more robbers were there? 'No,' replied a neighbour; 'we are walking upon our eyes; in a minute we shall sight El-Medeeneh.' Rapidly we crossed the muse-loved ravine El-Akeek. It was dry as summer's dust, and its 'beautiful trees' were stunted firewood. Presently we came to a *sudárrag*, a broad 'flight of steps,' and at its summit, passing through a lane of lava with steep banks, we suddenly beheld the 'Holy City' lying upon the plain before us. We halted our beasts as if by word of command, and all of us, tired and hungry as we were, dismounted and sat down to enjoy the view. Numerous were the poetical exclamations of those around me, whilst their features worked with excitement and their eyes swam with tears. I now fully understood the meaning of the dark phrase in the Moslem ritual, 'When his (the pilgrim's) sight falls upon the trees of El-Medeeneh, let him raise his voice and bless the Prophet with the choicest offerings.' In all the fair view before us, no feature was more striking after the desolation of the journey than the gardens and palm-groves of the town. We reached El-Medeeneh on the 25th of July, thus taking nearly eight days to travel about 130 miles. My computation of the stages is—

	Miles,
From Yambo to Muzahhal .....	16
Bir-said .....	34
El-Hamra .....	14
	—64 half-way.
El-Hamra to Bir-Abbás .....	24
Suwaykeh .....	22
El-Medeeneh .....	20
	—66
Total .....	130 miles.

My camel men were of the Harb tribe, corrupted by Turkish example, and the profession of taking in pilgrims. They made no difficulty in answering my questions about the country. To obviate curiosity I had an extract of Arab genealogies, and always began my questions with 'You men of Harb, on what lineage do you pride yourselves?' Notes must be kept private, and sketches must not be seen; but these people do not object to a learned man writing in a manuscript, as if commenting upon it, and he may also retire into solitude. The best pretext to avoid company is Sando, a 'black,' i.e. a melancholic temperament, all Orientals, especially the Arabs, being subject to fits of nervous depression, when they fly to solitude as to a friend. Before I conclude I will not omit to mention some of the secondary objects of my journey, which were to find out if a market for purchasing horses could be established, to obtain information concerning the great eastern desert, and to inquire about the existence of perennial streams, as well as the disputed slope of the country. Of the first I can say that I feel satisfied El-Hejaz (the Hedjaz) cannot supply India with horses. These animals, though high bred in the holy land of Arabia, are 'rats,' as slender stunted bloods are generally called, of fabulous price, and to be bought only when necessity compels their owners to part with them. 2. Of the great eastern desert, marked in our maps as Ruba-el-Khali, or the uninhabited region, I have heard from credible sources that its horrid depths swarm with a large and half-starved population, amongst whom a hardy and daring explorer will find it possible to travel; and that it is a system of rocky hills, semi-fertile ravines and valleys, sand deserts, and plains of hard clay covered with thin vegetation from a scanty winter rain. At El-Medeeneh I heard a tradition that in days of yore a high road ran from the city, passing through this wild region, to Hadramaut; it had, however, been deserted for ages, and my informant considered me demented when I talked of travelling by it. 3. I am satisfied that, despite all geographers between Ptolemy and Jomard, Arabia, so rich in ravines or winter streams and mountain rills, contains nothing that can properly be called a river, and I have reason to believe that, contrary to Ritter and others, the general declivity of Arabia is from north to south—from Bagdad to Mecca. My ethnological researches I propose to detail at some future time, and my next communication will be the itinerary from El-Medeeneh to Mecca. I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

(Signed) "RICHARD F. BURTON,

"Lieutenant Bombay Army.  
"To Dr. Shaw, Secretary to the Royal Geographical Society, Belair House, Bombay, April 13."

2. 'Journey from Cairo to Jerusalem, *vid* Suez, Mount Sinai, Akabá, and Hebron, by the late Professor G. Wallin, of Finland, translated by Dr. Shaw.'

3. 'Further explorations in Central Africa, as far as lat. 14° 10' 52" S., and long. 23° 35' 40", by Dr. Livingston, with correct astronomical observations, and map of route, communicated through the London Missionary Society and Lieutenant-Colonel Steele, F.R.G.S., with notes from G. Frere, Esq., F.R.G.S., through the Foreign-office, and from T. Maclear, Esq., astronomer at the Cape, to Sir J. Herschel,' communicated through Sir Roderick Murchison, who stated that he heartily agreed with the astronomers, Mr. Maclear and Sir John Herschel, that so profound an explorer as Dr. Livingston deserved every encouragement, and that he rejoiced that the Royal

Geographical Society should previously have placed its confidence in this adventurous missionary, and that he should have lived to accomplish, with the chronometer awarded to him by the Society, results exceeding in accuracy of observation any lately made. Dr. Livingston had received this award for his discovery, in company with two English gentlemen, Messrs. Oswell and Murray, of Lake Ngami, and afterwards for his discovery of the largest river of Southern Africa, which river this most enterprising of modern explorers had now traced far into the interior, and the results of whose labours were so well condensed in the following letter:—

"Royal Observatory, Cape of Good Hope, April 19, 1854.

"My dear Sir John—By to-day's mail for England, I send to Lieut.-Colonel Steele, F.R.G.S., the observations, and the results from them, made by Dr. Livingston for the geographical points along his route in 1853. By the last I forwarded to the same gentleman a despatch from Livingston, intended, I believe, for the Royal Geographical Society.

"Having reduced the observations, I can vouch for their correctness; and they include *four occultations*.

"The remarkable geographical fact is the existence of a very large river, which he navigated in canoes, in the company of a horde of natives, from about lat. 18° 20' to lat. 14° 11'.

"On the other side I give you the latitudes and longitudes of the points where he observed for both, and the latitudes of all the points where he observed. I hope also a tracing of the river will be ready in time for the post. One has been sent to Colonel Steele, on a large scale, drawn by Livingston, but it will require a little correction, as derived from my calculations.

"Lake Ngami and most of the southern points must now be shifted rather more than two degrees to the westward.

"Another remarkable fact is the detection of a Portuguese slave merchant stockade. It was said that the existence of slave merchants in that quarter, and so far south, is new—in other words, the game is wearing out in the northern direction.

"Where there is plenty of rank vegetation, heat, and moisture, you may conjecture that there is likely to be plenty of fever; and such is the case. Livingston has had fever eight times. At a spot a little south of the Chobe river, the whole of his party was laid prostrate at one time. This spot he names 'the Fever Ponds.'

"At the date of his writing to me (Sept. 29, 1853), he was preparing for a push towards Loanda, on the west coast, thence to return to his late track through Loanda, 'the capital of a powerful state, down the Leela.' If spared to accomplish this, he will rip up and expose to the public an interesting section of this 'terra incognita.'

"In order to accomplish his task without personal anxiety, he sent his wife and family home (to England) last year. Such a man deserves every encouragement in the power of his country to grant. He has done that which few discoverers or other travellers can boast of—he fixed his geographical points with very great accuracy. He is a poor missionary. Yours, my dear Sir John, faithfully,

"T. MACLEAR."

4. 'On the Eastern Territory of the state of Ecuador, the Canton Quizos, the River Napo, and the N.W. sources of the Marañon.' Communicated by the Rev. C. G. Nicolay. In introducing the well-known traveller, M. Kohl, to the Society, Sir R. Murchison briefly enumerated the leading features of a work on America on which that author is engaged, and which is specially recommended by Baron Humboldt. The Chairman next directed attention to the instrument on the table, for measuring the velocity and ascertaining the direction of sub-surface currents, by Dr. Buist, of Bombay; to an ancient map of the world made in the fifteenth century, exhibited by Sir Thomas Phillipps, as contrasted with Mr. Arrowsmith's beautiful map of the southern portion of the Crimea, shortly to be published; and to the sketches



exhibited by Mr. John Webster, illustrative of the cruise of the royal yacht schooner *Wanderer*, commanded by the lamented Mr. Boyd, through the islands of the Pacific, including the Sandwich, the Kingsmills, and the Solomons, depicting the natives and the scenery of the various groups. In answer to Mr. Montgomery Martin's inquiry about the actual state of the proposed North Australian expedition, he explained that the council had that day empowered the president to communicate on the subject with Sir George Grey, the new Secretary of State for the Colonies. Mr. Montgomery Martin further remarked on the flourishing state of the revenues of the several Australian colonies, amounting to upwards of five millions of pounds, and exceeding those of many states of Europe. He directed attention also to the large surplus that these Australian colonies had in hand, as well as to the liberality with which they were ready to support any public undertakings. He strongly urged that instead of limiting the applications to the Colonial Office, the Royal Geographical Society should communicate at once, and directly, with the Governments of the Colonies themselves, and should suggest to them a plan of operations which would lead to a thorough exploration of the Australian Continent; and he entertained no doubt that such a suggestion would be gladly responded to, and that ample funds would be at once furnished by the Colonies for the carrying out of the expeditions. This opinion was fully corroborated by Sir George Grey, late Governor of New Zealand, who stated his conviction that the Colonial Governments would be flattered by the suggestions of so important a Society as the Royal Geographical, and would be very far, indeed, from considering them as intrusive. After paying a handsome tribute to the merits of Captain Sturt, Sir George added that we should in Australia itself find persons fully qualified to engage in carrying out the Society's instructions.

#### FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Carlsruhe.

A SMALL German "Residenz" town affords in general little of sufficient attraction to arrest the steps of a traveller, and it is not without some surprise that, having stopped at Carlsruhe, with the intention of passing a couple of days here, I find myself at the end of a fortnight still unwilling to leave it. Nature and art combine alike to make this a most attractive little town. The Hartwald, which lies immediately without its gates, whence it extends for a great number of miles, is one of the most beautiful of the German forests; a part of it lying close to the palace has been converted into the Schlossgarten (or palace garden), Fasanerie, and Thiergarten (or deer park); the former, which is very extensive, and is laid out with great taste, contains some fine old trees, and, thrown open by the generosity of the Regent to the use of the public, is a favourite resort in the fine summer evenings. A small, but well-kept botanic garden also adjoins the Schlossgarten, and within its precincts a large building is now in process of erection, destined to contain the tropical plants hitherto crowded together in some three or four unsightly greenhouses. The new building, which is of brick with an arched roof of glass, is intended to serve the purpose of a winter garden, and will be connected with the palace by a covered passage.

In the botanic garden stands the Kunst Halle, or Hall of Art, a handsome building, containing, amongst a good deal of rubbish, some valuable works of ancient and modern masters. Among the former may be mentioned some specimens of the early German school, from the collection of the Prince Regent; and among the latter a number of Schorr's cartoons, from the *Nibelungen* frescoes at Munich, which are extremely fine, and others of various merit by Hess, Schwind, Overbeck, &c. I may also mention a *Salutation*, by Steins, an *Alpenglühn in Norway*, by Saar, a clever battle piece by a young artist of the name of Dietz, and a singular picture by Schwind, from a ballad of Goethe's, 'Ritter Curt's Brantfabrt.' In the lower

part of the building is a good collection of casts from antique statues, together with a few from the works of modern artists. There are also a quantity of Roman remains, carvings in stone, implements, utensils, and ornaments in metal, which have been found from time to time in Baden, and a collection of Etruscan vases, lamps, &c., which for some reason were not to be seen when I visited the Kunst Halle. A print room is also attached to this institution, which I understand contains a good collection of engravings and original drawings; but having only learned its existence after the day was past on which it is open to the public, I was unable to judge for myself of its excellence. That such a receptacle for works of art as the Kunst Halle exists at all in so small a town is in itself a matter of wonder; and the fact that it, as well as all places of amusement or interest, is so freely thrown open to the public, gives rise to a comparison with the conduct pursued in other German towns I could name, most favourable to the liberality of Carlsruhe.

On the wall of the great staircase, in the Kunst Halle, is a fresco by Schwind, of the *Dedication of Freiberg Cathedral*—a work, the composition and grouping of which evince great talent, but whose colouring to an unaccustomed eye is hard and inharmonious; it is, however, in keeping with the building of whose decoration it forms a part, and which, as well as the theatre, is in a style which strikes the eye at first more by the variegated appearance of its ornaments than by its beauty. One grows accustomed to it, however, on further acquaintance, and learns to like the cheerful aspect of buildings which one must yet always feel to be wanting in the dignity befitting temples dedicated to the arts. It would, however, ill become an Englishman to be over critical of the architecture of a little German town, which makes no pretension to having a peculiarly art-loving population, so long as our National Gallery and her Majesty's Theatre stand as monuments of national disgrace in our metropolis.

I must not omit to mention a monument erected in the Schlossgarten to Hebel, the poet of the Black Forest, whose memory is held in veneration, not only by all Baden but by all Germany. His poems in the Allemanic dialect are perhaps unrivalled in any language for simple truth and touching beauty; but, fully to be enjoyed, should be read amongst the scenes and people of the Black Forest where they were written, and whose peculiarities of character and scenery they so exquisitely depict. The hills of the Schwarzwald lie at no great distance from Carlsruhe, and their soft outlines form one great feature in the landscape on one side, as do the Voges on the other, at a greater distance, with their more jagged and grander forms.

The Schloss-platz, or great square before the palace, is a very large space covered with trees, and containing two basins with fountains, around which, during the summer months, stand a number of fine orange trees. The palace forms one side of this square, and here too stands the theatre, so that before the performance there is a promenade for the gay world of Carlsruhe under the trees I have mentioned. Of the theatre I scarcely know how to give any idea to those accustomed, as most Englishmen are, to regard it as a convenient place to lounge away a few heavy hours of the evening; here it is an institution for the education and improvement of all classes, is regarded as such by the Regent, and as such made use of by the people. It is now just a year since the new theatre was opened under the direction of Eduard Devrient, a man fitted alike by talent and education for the position he now holds. Himself an actor, formerly a singer, and possessing much skill as a draughtsman, he is at the same time a man of high cultivation and intellect, and is devoted to his art, in whose service he has spent his whole life, and in the elevation of which he has striven and written as perhaps no other has done. What marvel that such a man should have been selected as the head of such an institution, and should work wonders even with the materials which so small a theatre

can place at his disposal? A performance of Schiller's *Wilhelm Tell*, at which it was my good fortune to be present one evening, was an occasion not easily to be forgotten. Emil Devrient, who was here as a guest, giving some of his principal characters, was the *Tell*; of his performance of this part it is unnecessary to speak, as it is already well known to the English public, and appears to me, accustomed to see him in his best parts, one of his least happy conceptions: my business is rather to speak of the effect produced by the performance as a whole, and here there was a harmony and a vigour which can scarcely be surpassed. The scene on the Rüttli, which sometimes seems wearisome on the stage, had a truth and reality about it which were quite overpowering; and the care which each individual actor had bestowed on his part, from first to last, produced a whole of surpassing beauty and power. Herr Schneider, a young actor of considerable talent, to whom was allotted the beautiful but difficult part of *Stauffer*, deserves especial mention for the truth and care of his performance. The costumes for this, as for every piece which comes upon these boards, were chosen and arranged even to their minutest details by Eduard Devrient himself; each figure is in itself a study, and the groups, as they change, form as it were a series of pictures, so carefully and artistically are they arranged.

One more among the performances I have seen here deserves particular notice; it was that of Mendelssohn's *Liederspiel*, or operetta, *Die Heimkehr aus der Fremde*, followed by the finale to the first act of the opera on which he was engaged at the time of his death, and which has for its subject the old legend of the Loreley. The former was composed originally for a party of amateurs, on occasion of some family festival, and is extremely simple in its construction, but contains some numbers which are perfect gems in their kind. The latter, which was appropriately separated from the *Liederspiel* by the Hebrides overture, is a fragment of great beauty and dramatic power, but consists only of a solo and chorus. *Loreley*, in despair at the faithlessness of her lover, is heard by the spirits of the Rhine calling for revenge; they rise from the stream, and promise to give her her desire, if she will plight her troth to the river, and belong henceforward to it alone. The struggle in her heart is given with wonderful expression in the music; and an acquaintance with this fragment cannot fail to excite a mournful regret that a composer, who has shown such mastery over other styles of composition, had not lived to prove his excellence also as a dramatic writer, of which this finale gives such undeniable evidence. [Our correspondent does not seem to be aware that this fine work of Mendelssohn has been produced in this country, and that English lovers of music have enjoyed a treat similar to which is here described at the Philharmonic Concerts, and other places of high musical performance.]

Standing outside the theatre previous to the performance, I was struck by a troop of men in a peculiar uniform, who marched in at one of the side doors; on my inquiring what they were, I learned that after the destruction of the old theatre by fire, some six or eight years ago, on which occasion many lives were lost from the want of organized or efficient help on the spot, a number of the respectable burghers of the town had formed themselves into a volunteer fire brigade. Skeleton houses have been erected for their practice in climbing, and in their various manœuvres; they have, I believe, stated times for drilling, and are commanded on occasion of a fire by their chief, whose orders are given by sound of a horn; nothing is done except under his direction, and no word is allowed to be spoken. Among their number are some of the principal people of the town, and it is their duty to be ready at all hours of the day and night, at the sound of the drum, to hasten to the assistance of their fellow citizens; their skill and bravery are said to be something wonderful. Those I saw were the detachment which is sent every evening to the theatre, to be ready in case of accidents.

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## VARIETIES.

"Liverpool, August 9th, 1854.

*British Association.*—"Sir,—I perceive in your last publication, a letter from Dr. Hume, who is Secretary of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, casting imputations upon the correctness of the programme which I sent to you with especial sanction of Dr. Dickinson, one of the local Secretaries for the Liverpool Meeting of the Association. It appears to have been the determination of this Historic Society or some persons acting for it, to force the subject of the Faussett Antiquities upon the British Association, not as a matter of entertainment to the members only, but as a portion of the business of the meeting. It has, however, been arranged very properly, and it is to be hoped that nothing will occur to mar the harmony of the approaching meeting, which certainly bids fair to be one of extraordinary attraction. I enclose you the printed programme, which is now published, by which you will perceive that I have in no respect misled you. I am, &c.

"J. C. ARCHER."

*Astronomical Observations in a Coal-pit.*—On Saturday Professor Airy, the Astronomer Royal, paid a visit to the colliery district of the Tyne, in pursuit of curious and important astronomical observations. For that purpose he was taken by Mr. Mather, a scientific gentleman belonging to South Shields, down Horton pit, the deepest in the Tyne, 1260 feet deep, to examine if it were possible to make arrangements in it for a series of delicate experiments and observations in reference to the pendulum, and the earth's action upon it there, simultaneously with similar ones on the surface, with a view to determine the weight of the earth and planets. Mr. Anderson and the other proprietors and officers of this splendid mine gave every facility to the Astronomer Royal, and tendered not only the use of the mine, but their own personal services, for any future occasion.—*Times.*

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Charles Thomas Holcombe, Esq.  
Richard Harman Lloyd, Esq.  
Auditors.—Thomas Allen, Esq.; James Gascoigne Lynde, Esq.  
Physician.—George Leith Roupell, M.D., F.R.S., 15, Welbeck St.  
Surgeons.—James Saner, Esq., M.D., Finsbury Square.  
Wm. Cooke, Esq., M.D., 39, Trinity Square, Tower Hill.  
Bankers.—Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co., 67, Lombard Street.  
Messrs. Hanbury and Lloyd, 60, Lombard Street.  
Sundry and Secretary.—Charles Jellicoe, Esq.

The business of the Company comprises assurance on lives and survivorship, the purchase of life interests, the sale and purchase of contingent and deferred annuities, loans of money on mortgage, &c.

This Company was established in 1807, is empowered by the Act of Parliament 33 Geo. III., and regulated by deed enrolled in the High Court of Chancery.

The Company was originally a strictly proprietary one. The assured, on the participating scale, now participate quinquennially in four-fifths of the amount to be divided.

To the present time (1853) the assured have received from the Company, in satisfaction of their claims, upwards of £1,400,000. The amount at present assured is £3,000,000 nearly, and the income of the Company is about £125,000.

The lives assured are permitted, in time of peace, and not being engaged in mining or gold digging, to reside in any country—or to pass by sea (not being seafaring persons by profession) between any two parts of the same hemisphere—distant more than 33 deg. from the equator, without extra charge.

All Policy Stamps and Medical Fees are now paid by the Company.

By recent enactments, persons are exempt, under certain restrictions, from Income Tax, as respects so much of their income as they may devote to assurances on lives.

The Annual Reports of the Company's state and progress, Prospectuses and Forms, may be had, or will be sent, post-free, on application at the Office, or to any of the Company's Agents.

### ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFITS.

**GREAT BRITAIN MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,**

14, Waterloo Place, London, and 30, Brown Street, Manchester.

Directors.

**RICHARD HARTLEY KENNEDY, Esq., Chairman, Deputy-Chairman.**  
Colonel Michael E. Bagnold.  
Francis Brodigan, Esq.  
Alexander Robert Irvine, Esq.  
John Inglis Jerdein, Esq.  
James John Kinloch, Esq.  
Henry Lawson, Esq.  
Rev. F. W. J. Vickery.

The Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy-holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually and applied in reduction of the current Premiums. Policy-holders participate in Profits after payment of five annual Premiums.

The Annual General Meeting of this Society was held on the 30th May, 1854, when a Report of the business for the last year was presented, exhibiting a statement of most satisfactory progress. It appeared that the Assurances in 1853 considerably exceeded those effected in any previous year; the number of Policies issued being more than 460, and the annual income thereon being upwards of £7500. It also appeared that, except in 1849, when the visitation of the cholera, and the claims arising from deaths were, in every year, much below their estimated amount.

The Members present at the Meeting were fully satisfied with the Report, and resolved unanimously that a Reduction of 3¼ per Cent. should be made in the current year's Premium, payable by all Policy-holders now entitled to participate in the Profits.

Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premiums for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction:—

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Prem. originally paid	Allowance of 3¼ per Cent.	Annual Prem. now payable.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1000	20 17 6	6 11 6	14 6 0
30	1000	25 13 6	8 1 8	17 11 8
40	1000	33 14 4	10 13 8	23 4 8
50	1000	48 16 8	15 7 8	33 9 0
60	1000	75 17 6	23 18 0	51 19 6

**A. R. IRVINE,**

14, Waterloo Place, London.

Managing Director.

ESTABLISHED 1841.

**MEDICAL, INVALID, AND GENERAL LIFE OFFICE, 25, Pall Mall.**

Since the Establishment of this Society, 5071 Policies have been issued for £2,690,029 w/h £90,365 of Annual Premiums.

Two Bonuses have been declared (in 1844 and 1853), adding nearly 2 per cent. per annum on the average to sums assured, and by which a Policy of £1000 issued in 1842 on a healthy life is now increased to £1260.

Profits divided every five years.

Assurances are effected at home or abroad on either healthy or diseased lives, at as moderate rates as the most recent data will allow.

Policies issued free of Stamp Duty, and every charge but the Premiums.

Agents wanted for vacant places.

Prospectuses, Forms of Proposal, and every other information, may be obtained of the Secretary at the Chief Office, or on application to any of the Society's Agents in the country.

**F. G. P. NEISON, Actuary.**

**C. DOUGLAS SINGER, Secretary.**

## SCOTTISH EQUITABLE LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY. INSTITUTED 1811.

PRESIDENT.—His Grace the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry, K.G.

MANAGER.—Robert Christie, Esq.

SECRETARY.—William Finlay, Esq.

HEAD OFFICE.—26, St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh.

The Twenty-third Annual General Meeting of this Society was held at Edinburgh on 2nd May, 1854; and William Stuart Walker, Esq., of Howland, in the chair.

The Report read to the Meeting, and which was unanimously approved, contained the following particulars:—  
The number of Policies issued during the year ending 1st March is 620, the Sums Assured thereby being £2,271,515, giving an addition to the Income in Annual Premiums of £8,595.

The Policies lapsed by death during the year are 84, the Sums Assured by which amount to £19,850, and the Bonus Additions to £5,483, making together £25,333.

In comparing these sums with the amounts for the preceding year, they exhibit an increase of 17 in the number of Policies, and of about £6,000 in the Sums Assured. The increase, though of moderate amount, must be considered satisfactory, especially when regard is had to the great competition which now exists in the business of Life Assurance.

The number of Policies lapsed by death is four under that of last year, and the amount payable nearly £7,000 less. Keeping in view the additions made to the business, and the increased age of the Members of the Society, the rate of mortality is most gratifying.

The Sums remaining Assured amount to £1,224,593 7  
The Annual Revenue amounts to £132,415  
And the Accumulated Fund is increased to £259,354.

\* Medical Referees paid by the Society.

VIEW OF THE PROGRESS AND SITUATION OF THE SOCIETY.

	Amount Assured.	Annual Revenue.	Accumulated Fund.
At 1st March, 1836	£ 612,571	£ 21,516	£ 40,851
Do. 1842	1,685,067	61,851	181,000
Do. 1848	2,984,778	110,700	465,675
Do. 1854	4,234,595	132,615	839,354

### POLICIES RENDERED INDISPUTABLE.

By a Resolution of the Society, Policies may, after being of the year's endurance, be declared indisputable on any ground whatever, and the Assured be entitled to travel or reside beyond the limits of Europe, without payment of Extra Premium for non-travelling or residence. Special application must be made to the Directors for such privilege, however, and satisfactory evidence adduced that, at the time of his application, the Assured has no prospect or intention of going beyond the limits of Europe.

The Amount of Claims paid to the Representatives of deceased Members exceeds SIX HUNDRED THOUSAND POUNDS.

Copies of the Report, Prospectus, and all other information may be had on application at the Head Office in Edinburgh, or at the Country Agents, and to the London Agency, 126, Bishopsgate Street.

London, June, 1854.

**WILLIAM COOK, Agent.**

**NORTH BRITISH INSURANCE COMPANY**, 4, New Bank Buildings, Lombury.

PRESIDENT.—His Grace the DUKE OF SUTHERLAND, K.G.

Sir PETER LAURIE, Alderman, Chairman.

JOHN I. GLENNIE, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

Solicitor.—ALEX. DOBIE, Esq.

The benefits of Life Assurance are afforded by this Company in its utmost extent, combined with perfect security in a fully subscribed Capital of One Million, besides an accumulating Premium Fund exceeding £250,000, and a Revenue from Life Premiums alone of more than £108,000, which is annually increasing. Nineteen, or Ninety per Cent. of the profits, are septennially divided among the Insurers on the participation scale of Premiums. On Insurances for the whole life, half the premium may remain in credit for the first five years.

Tables of increasing Rates have been formed upon a plan peculiar to this Company, from which the following is an extract.

Premium to Insure £100 at death.

Age	First Year.	Second Year.	Third Year.	Fourth Year.	Fifth Year.	Remainder of Life.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	0 18 2	0 19 2	1 0 3	1 1 5	1 2 8	1 18 1
30	1 3 9	1 5 2	1 6 8	1 8 4	1 10 0	2 10 1
40	1 11 10	1 13 9	1 15 10	1 18 1	2 0 6	3 2 1

Specimen of the Bonuses added to Policies to 1851, to which will be added a prospective Bonus of one per cent. per annum on the sum insured and previously declared Bonuses, in the event of death before December, 1858, and in which prospective Bonus all new Insurers on the Profit scale will participate.

Date of Policy.	Sum Insured.	Bonuses.	Amount.
£	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1825	5000	1958 2 4	6958 2 4
1825	2000	770 9 9	2770 9 9
1828	3000	1038 2 4	4038 2 4

Prospectuses, with Tables of Rates, and full particulars, may be obtained of the Secretary, 4, New Bank Buildings, London, or from any of the Agents of the Company.

**ROBERT STRACHAN, Secretary.**

\* Applications for Agencies may be addressed to the Secretary, 4, New Bank Buildings.

**BANK OF DEPOSIT.**

No. 3, PALL MALL EAST, LONDON.

Established, A.D. 1844.

**PARTIES desirous of INVESTING MONEY** are requested to examine the Plan of this Institution, by which a high rate of Interest may be obtained with perfect security.

Interest payable in JANUARY and JUNE.

**PETER MORRISON, Managing Director.**

\* Prospectuses and Forms for opening Accounts, sent free on application.

London: Printed for Lovell Reeve, of 5, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden, in the County of Middlesex, at the Office of Messrs. Reeve and Edwards, No. 4, Chandos Street, Covent Garden (aforesaid), and published by him at his Office, 5, Henrietta Street, Covent Garden.—Saturday, August 12, 1854.